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Despite centuries of debate about the medieval medical writers Trota and Hildegard, there still remain widely disparate views of them in both popular and scholarly discourses. Their alternate dismissal or romanticization is not due to a simple contest between antifeminist and feminist tendencies. Rather, issues of gender have intersected in varying ways with other agendas (intellectual, nationalist, etc.). Recent philological researches have helped not only to clarify why these earlier interpretations were created in the first place, but also to raise our understanding of these women and their work to a new, higher level.	
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### Abstract

This article analyzes the trial that the Faculty of Medicine at Paris pursued against Jacoba Félicie in 1322. Drawing on her patients' narratives, it attempts to interpret Jacoba's medical practice and the particular nature of the relationship that she established with her patients. In order to identify and describe this relationship, we use a basic distinction between power and authority.

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### Abstract

Although women's legal and marital status make them almost invisible in archival documents, what traces remain suggest that women participated in Lyon's medical marketplace in various ways and under various guises. At Lyon's municipally-funded poor hospital, the Hôtel-Dieu, widows and wives of surgeons, repentant prostitutes, birth attendants, and «women» cared for the destitute and sick of Lyon, in the capacity of midwives, physicians, surgeons, and barbers. Though the records almost always identify women practitioners simply as «women» or by their first and last name, many of them engaged in the identical tasks as male practitioners. Outside of the hospital, wives acted as barbers or surgeons alongside or in place of their husbands when widowed. In the final analysis, municipal authorities accepted the help of female healers on the basis of their traditional medical knowledge, joint work identity with their practitioner-husbands, and proven skill.

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### Abstract

Lady Grace Mildmay's manuscripts represent an unusual presentation of three interrelated areas of family, devotion, and medicine. By examining her autobiography, meditations, and medical papers, I draw together literary analysis and discourses of female devotional and social practices with that of medical discourses to illustrate the ways in which women practitioners

may have acquired and disseminated medical knowledge, and interacted with their patients, as well as how Lady Mildmay, and presumably other landed women practitioners, formed a textual community of women who administered medical treatment to lay people in late sixteenth-century England.

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#### Abstract

In the highly stratified medical system of seventeenth-century Bologna, women healers occupied a low-rank position. Officially women could practice medicine only as midwives or as holders of permits for the sale of patent medicines. Women were a relatively marginal group even within unauthorized medical practice. Of the criminal proceedings against unlicensed healers only 12% were directed against women. In contrast, women were prominent in religious healing—as shown by the record of healing miracles attributed to female saints, and the importance of female convents as centers of supernatural healing. The different status of women in each case might be related to the different role of the body in lay and religious medical practices. While contact with the «holy bodies» of the saints was absolutely central in religious healing, «healing with the body» was considered a mark of inferiority in lay medical practice.

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#### Abstract

In this article I explore the connections between state centralization, the professionalization of healing, and the end of the royal midwife Louise Bourgeois' (1563-1636) illustrious career in seventeenth-century France. Specifically, I analyze seventeenth-century narratives of two events which frame Louise Bourgeois' public career as a writer and royal midwife in order to demonstrate the way that the changing meanings of childbirth and the role of the midwife in the medical hierarchy were bound up in state formation and consolidation. The result for midwives was that, though they could still practice, they were ultimately considered marginal to the medical community.

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#### Abstract

This study examines the rise and development of professional midwifery in Mexico. The authors sustain that this profession was created in the 19th century by the medical profession as a means to eliminate traditional midwives and obtain access to pregnant women, women about to give birth, and women in the puerperal period. The relationship between physicians and midwives was never without its contradictions; however, conflicts increased after the establishment of gynecology as a specialty in Mexico. In the 20th century, physicians imposed increasingly stringent limitations on the activities of certified midwives and instead promoted training for traditional midwives, until professional midwifery was abandoned.

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#### Abstract

Midwifery knowledge is a complex entity—comprising of training and experiential elements—not fixed but mutable, both informed and altered by practice. This study uses oral history accounts to explore how midwives viewed themselves and how they interacted with midwifery knowledge in an attempt to gain a greater understanding of their power and independence in the workplace and, as a result, of their professional status. Midwifery knowledge cannot simply be defined as the technical skills taught in training; it was also shaped by the environment in which practice took place and the midwife's relationships with women and with doctors.

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### Abstract

Women physicians in late 19th century Russia emerge just as the Russian professions begin attempting to achieve some degree of autonomy from bureaucratic interference. Women took advantage of this discourse to portray themselves as competent professionals dedicated to bettering the lives of Russian people. Quite often these attempts to justify their work in the profession also motivated them to publish their scientific findings so that they could be viewed as legitimate scholars and physicians. This article concentrates on six women physicians, Elizabeth Drentel'n, Aleksandra Ekkert, Maria Pokrovskaiia, Evgeniia Serebrennikova, Anna Shabanova, and Maria Volkova who provide illustrative case studies for what many other women physicians were doing. Women physicians published on a wide variety of topics, from women's and children's health to various types of cancers and infectious diseases. A few also used their medical training to advocate for women's political and social rights.

Women's education according to the first women to receive doctorates in medicine from Spanish universities, 1882 (*Spanish*)

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### Abstract

This study looks at the topic of women's education as considered by the first two women to receive the degree of Doctor in Medicine from a Spanish university. Dolores Aleu and Martina Castells decided to present as a doctoral thesis the development of an issue of particular relevance during the final decades of the 19th century. The importance given to public education and the difficulties young women encountered in participating under the same conditions as young men led these two women—who both held a bachelor's degree—to raise the issue and defend personal and social reasons that justified their full participation in different levels of education.

From «Uncertifiable» Medical Practice to the Berlin Clinic of Women Doctors: The Medical Career of Franziska Tiburtius (M.D. Zürich, 1876)

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Abstract

Problems in gender expectations and relationships complicated increasing professionalization of medical arts at an important point of transformation toward the modern industrial European state. Subordination of women's work in these processes altered possible outcomes for German society in general and for female medical careers in particular. Franziska Tiburtius was one of twenty German women graduated from the coeducational medical school in Zürich, Switzerland, in the nineteenth century. She was a founder of the Clinic of Women Doctors despite prohibitions against certifying women as physicians. Imperial Germany was the last Western nation to admit women to full medical practice in 1899.

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Abstract

The aim of this article is to highlight early Finnish nursing in a special wartime context. Occupational development of nursing is envisioned by addressing at a more general level women's mutual relationships and the opportunities and obstacles of the process of occupational development. The article debates two main issues. Establishing occupational domains was a process of selecting suitable labour force and training women morally, as well. The hierarchical order of nursing is manifested especially in the questions of auxiliary labour and the so-called amateur scare. War was still a time of romanticism with visible military and religious models, but women also struggled for their right to have rights.

«Able to Do Things of Which They Have Never Dreamed»: Shi Meiyu's Vision of Nursing in Early Twentieth Century China

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Abstract

This essay explores the writings of Shi Meiyu, a Chinese woman medical missionary, concerning the nursing school she ran in Jiujiang, China from 1896 to 1920. During this period, in both the writings of Western missionaries and Chinese reformers, images of sick Chinese women were frequently used to condemn many aspects of Chinese society. My essay looks at the

ways that Shi Meiyu, in her discussions of the health of Chinese women, shifted the focus to a vision of Chinese women as skilled healers. I also explore Shi's search for the funding to adapt her nursing school to the increasing emphasis on «scientific» medicine.

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#### Abstract

This article explores the connections between infant mortality, eugenic thinking, and the professional development of pediatricians and pediatric nurses in the early twentieth century. It argues that the goal of the physicians affiliated with Germany's National Hospital to Combat Infant Mortality was to create and disseminate a centrally-controlled message about infant hygiene, and to transform infant care into a medically-managed event. The deeply gendered ways in which both the hygienic program, and the medical division of labor were constructed, had the ambiguous result of expanding training opportunities for pediatric nurses, while at the same time, severely limiting their professional autonomy.

- The *Assistance maternelle de Montréal* (1912-1961). An example of marginalization of philanthropic active women in the field of care for pregnant (French)  
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#### Abstract

This article examines the story of the *Assistance maternelle de Montréal*, an organization founded in 1912 by a group of bourgeois catholic women to provide material assistance and free medical services to poor pregnant mothers of the city. I want to show that even if the timid intervention of the Quebec state allowed the AM to survive during almost 50 years, the rise of the experts in the health field—a phenomenon to which the AM has largely contributed—and in the philanthropic sector led to the marginalization of the female volunteers within the very institution they had created.

ARTICLES

Discourse on a Social Illness: Leprosy in the Viceroyalty of Nueva Granada in the transition from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> century (*Spanish*)  
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Abstract

The significance of leprosy in the Viceroyalty of Nueva Granada in the transition from the 17th to the 18th century is analyzed. In addition, we analyze treatments recommended by physicians in the viceroyalty, which were closely related with the etiology and pathogenesis which all doctors attributed to Saint Lazarus's disease. The diversity of opinions led to different therapeutic measures, not only with regard to alleviating the patient's symptoms, but also with a view to preventing spread to the rest of the population. As a guiding theme we use the theories defended by the most representative physicians in the viceroyalty, and the views of patients themselves and of the society they lived in.

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Abstract

Spanish historiography on degenerationism has focussed on topics such as criminality, alcoholism, or its influence on naturalistic literature. From this perspective the lack of studies on how this theory affected psychiatrists in Spain is noteworthy. The aim of this paper is to analyze the relationship between clinical psychiatry and degenerationism. We stress three topics: morbid heredity and the nature of degeneration, physical and psychic stigmas, and the boundaries of degenerationism. To this end we examine different sources that include articles in the medical press, pamphlets and psychiatric treatises.

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2.3.—Demography, Sociology of medicine, Sociology, radical Psychiatry etc. 2.4.—From the 1980s. 3.—Now and hereafter? 4.—Conclusions?

#### Abstract

This is a personal account of scholarship in the history of medicine in Britain, from the 1960s onwards, drawn from recollections and knowledge of the literature. The institutional development of the subject is reviewed, emphasizing the contributions of the Wellcome Trust; the various modes of historical research and writing are surveyed and assessed. Modest suggestions are made for renewing the historiography of medical sciences and technologies, to contribute to the politics of knowledge and to wider histories.

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