

INFORMATION

Participation

Participation is free, but registration is required as the number of participants is limited to 44.

Please register online: www.hesav.ch/shm

Deadline for registration

15 September 2020

Target audience

Medical sociologists, health researchers, social sciences and health care students, health care professionals, teachers, public health researchers, policy-makers, and anyone interested.

Place

Haute École de Santé Vaud - HESAV
Av. de Beaumont 21
1011 Lausanne

Organisation

Raphaël Hammer (HESAV) and Stéphane Cullati (Population Health Laboratory (#PopHealthLab), University of Fribourg) from the research committee "Sociology of health and medicine" (Swiss Sociological Association), and the Haute École de Santé Vaud (HES-SO).

Funding

This one-day conference was funded by the School of Health Sciences (HESAV), the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland (HES-SO), the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF), the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Science (ASSH/SAGW), the Population Health Laboratory of the University of Fribourg, and the Swiss research committee "Sociology of health and medicine".

Contact

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HESAV

HAUTE ÉCOLE
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SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE IN SWITZERLAND: TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE ORGANISED
BY THE SWISS RESEARCH COMMITTEE
"SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE"

FRIDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2020
FROM 9H00 TO 18H00



SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE IN SWITZERLAND: TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

Presentation

The sociological analysis of social aspects of health, illness, health care organisation and policy has a long tradition. The sociology of health and medicine (SHM) has experienced tremendous growth around the world over the last decades. While they have become blurred today, the classical distinctions between sociology “in”, “of” and “with” medicine reflect the vitality and richness of the approaches in the field. SHM has developed in academic and health institutions as well, often implying collaborative research work with various actors (patients’ groups, health policy actors, providers of health care, epidemiologists...). The scope of matter pertinent to the field of the SHM is wide and has a variety of subjects which increasingly combines both applied and theoretical perspectives.

This one-day conference aims to celebrate 40 years of activities of the research committee of the Swiss Sociological Association on “Sociology of health and medicine”. It examines the current state of the field in Switzerland and in other countries. The objective of this conference is to address significant developments over the last years in the SHM, its current situation (opportunities and challenges), as well as future prospects. Keynote speakers and young researchers will contribute to reflections and concrete illustrations of the diversity of the discipline and its stakes.

Website

Website of the research committee “Sociology of health and medicine”: www.sgs-sss.ch/en/research-networks/health-and-medicine-sociology/.

PROGRAM

9h00

Welcome and coffee

9h30

Opening speech

9h45

Objects, groups and rituals: recent and emerging directions in the sociology of health, illness and risk – Patrick Brown, University of Amsterdam
(video conference)

Abstract

In this presentation I will explore three emerging trends in research in medical sociology, paying particular attention to studies of uncertainty and risk within this domain and drawing on my experience in editing Health, Risk & Society. By far the most well-known shift follows various approaches which have illuminated the more or less stable ontology of objects or considered the relationality of “risk objects” to “objects at risk”. My plan though is to consider further how objects are understood in light of two other tendencies in the field – one such tendency is a departure from the individual actor focus, which has dominated risks research, towards considering how groups of actors shape one another’s life worlds and actions. A second important tendency is to explore the role of ritual and magical uses of objects in the global north-west. These tendencies reflect a challenging of earlier assumptions regarding rationality and modernity, as well as an increasingly global sociology of health and illness.

10h45

Coffee break

11h00

The beginning and success of medical sociology in Switzerland – Peter C. Meyer, independent consultant, former director of the ZHAW Health Department

Abstract

In the late 1970’s a group of sociologists working in medical institutions founded the research committee “Medical Sociology”. I was member of the committee from the beginning and I became its president for many years. In the presentation I analyse the context and causes of the foundation as well as the goals, the success and the failures in the first 20 years. Furthermore I present some personalities of active board members and their careers – most of them rather successful. Sociology of Health and Medicine might not have a great standing inside

SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE IN SWITZERLAND: TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

the sociological institutes of the universities, but it has a good reputation outside and it promotes an excellent employability of its members.

Discussant: Thomas Abel, University of Bern.

11h45

Young researchers in the spotlight

Abstract

Early-career scientists will present their research (doctoral thesis or post-doc project) through stimulating and challenging short talks: Andrea Lutz, Unisanté, Lausanne, Vladimir Jolidon, University of Geneva, Mike Deml, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel, Audrey Linder, Haute École de Santé Vaud, Lausanne and Luna de Araujo, University of Geneva.

12h45

Lunch

13h45

Current roles and challenges of Sociology of Health and Medicine in the UK – Karen Lowton, University of Sussex (video conference)

Abstract

In this presentation, I will take a historical perspective to review the role of the sociology of health and medicine (SHM) in public health, epidemiology, and health services research, and will discuss the current influence of SHM on policies in the United Kingdom.

14h45

Coffee break and E-Poster session

15h15

Topical workshops (parallel sessions)

WORKSHOPS DETAILS

Workshop A

The sociology of health and medicine in various institutional contexts: challenges and opportunities

This workshop would like to bring together sociologists, or participants with social sciences background, working in health-related institutional contexts like hospitals, public health authorities, health observatories, university faculties of medicine, universities of applied science, etc. The aims are to share personal experiences of working in these institutional contexts, to discuss the challenges and the opportunities of these interdisciplinary environments, and to reflect on the specificity of the sociological approach.

Workshop B

16h45

17h00-18h00

About

Prize money ranking

Deadline for E-poster submission

Relevance of SHM for medical and healthcare students

The objective of this workshop is to address the contribution of the sociology of health and medicine for medical students, as well as nursing, midwifery and physiotherapy students, among others. The workshop aims to share the participants' perspectives and their personal (positive or negative) experiences from the point of view of teaching, students' reactions and strategies to highlight the relevance of the sociological study of health, illness and institutions of health care in the educational curriculum for health professionals.

Poster award and closing speech

Aperitif

E-POSTER AWARD

The one-day conference will host a poster session open to all participants. Those willing to participate will send an electronic poster presenting their on-going or completed research in the field of sociology of health and medicine. E-Posters may be prepared in English, German, French or Italian. They will be displayed on-site on a large LCD screen (E-Poster session). Please submit your E-Poster as a 1-page in portrait orientation (file format: .pptx) to: raphael.hammer@hesav.ch and stephane.cullati@unifr.ch.

The Swiss research committee “**Sociology of health and medicine**” will award the three best posters, based on their scientific quality, graphic quality and originality.

1st place: CHF 250.-
2nd place: CHF 150.-
3rd place: CHF 100.-

18 September 2020

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HESAV

Av. de Beaumont 21
Aula Françoise Wavre
1011 Lausanne

ACCESS

Voiture: autoroute sortie « Lausanne-Vennes/Hôpitaux »,
Parking P+R payant
Transports publics: métro M2 arrêt « CHUV »

By car: highway exit « Lausanne-Vennes/Hôpitaux »,
Paid parking P+R

By public transport: subway M2 stop « CHUV »