



Sociology
of Health

Newsletter of the International Sociological Association Research Committee 15 (Sociology of Health) – January 2020

English version

**Greetings from the President of International Sociological
Association, RC15 Sociology of Health**

Miwako Hosoda, Seisa University, Japan



Happy New Year!

Seeing 2020 as a turning point, the world is seeking to cooperate across borders to reverse climate change and accommodate to transformations in industrial and demographic structures. One such effort in international cooperation is the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations.

The drive to solving health-related issues is expressed in the SDGs as Goal 3: "Good Health and Well-Being". In many countries today universal health coverage is being pursued to ensure that all people have access to health insurance for quality health care. It is pointed out that Goal 1: "No Poverty", Goal 4: "Quality Education", Goal 5: "Gender Equality", Goal 6: "Clean Water and Sanitation", and Goal 16: "Peace, Justice and Strong Institution" are also closely related to Goal 3 and should be solved together.

This kind of approach is based on the World Health Organization's definition of health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being. This definition further overlaps with concepts in medical sociology, which has criticized the societal trend toward "medicalization". Health sociology has also continued to stress the importance of not only medical care, but also social factors involved in care through its "medical model" and "social model". Thus, in order to successfully achieve the SDGs, we, as advocates of health sociology, are expected to play a role.

The next ISA Forum in Porte Alegre in Brazil will be held this year on 14-18 July 2020. Many theoretical and empirical research papers focusing on health issues were selected as oral presentations and distributed papers. I am looking forward to having meaningful discussions with you and to continue making progress in achieving the SDGs through the upcoming decade.

Best wishes

Miwako Hosoda

Japanese version

世界社会学会 RC15 健康社会学 会長からのご挨拶

細田満和子（日本、星槎大学）

新年おめでとうございます。

2020年の節目を迎え、世界は、気候変動、産業構造や人口構造の転換といった大きな変化に、国境を越えた協働で対応することを模索しています。その一つとして国連の定めた17の持続可能な開発目標SDGsが広く共有され、世界各国で取り組みが進められつつあります。

SDGsにおいて健康に関することは、目標3「すべての人に健康と福祉を」として掲げられています。そして、医療へのアクセスを良くするためにすべての人が健康保険に入る「ユニバーサル・ヘルス・カバレッジ」の達成が図られています。また目標1「貧困をなくそう」、目標4「質の高い教育を」、目標5「ジェンダー差別をなくそう」、目標6「安全な水とトイレを世界中に」、目標16「平和と公正を全ての人に」なども密接に関わってくるので、目標3と一緒に解決すべきと指摘されています。

こうしたアプローチは、身体、精神、社会的に良好な状態という世界保健機構WHOの「健康」の定義をベースにしていますが、「医療化」への傾向を批判し、医学モデルと社会モデルの対比で医療だけではなく社会的要素の重要性を指摘してきた医療社会学の蓄積とも重なります。SDGsの達成のために、保健医療社会学を標榜する私たちも一定の役割を期待されているといえるでしょう。

本年2020年は、7月14日から18日まで、ブラジルのポルト・アレグレにて国際社会学会フォーラムが開催されます。今回もRC15の各セッションでは、保健医療分野における社会的課題を取り扱う理論的・実証的な研究発表が多数採択されています。皆様とグローバルな学術的交流をし、社会課題を解決する糸口を議論できますのを楽しみにしております。

Portuguese version

Saudações da Presidente da Associação Internacional de Sociologia, RC15 Sociologia da Saúde

Miwako Hosoda, Universidade de Seisa, Japão

Feliz Ano Novo!

Vendo 2020 como um ponto de virada, o mundo está procurando cooperar além das fronteiras para reverter às mudanças climáticas e se acomodar às transformações nas estruturas industriais e demográficas. Um desses esforços em termos de cooperação internacional é avançar nos 17 Objetivos de Desenvolvimento Sustentável (ODS) estabelecidos pelas Nações Unidas.

O esforço para resolver problemas relacionados à saúde é expresso nos ODS no Objetivo 3: "Boa saúde e bem-estar". Atualmente, em muitos países, está sendo buscada uma cobertura universal de saúde para garantir que todas as pessoas tenham acesso à saúde para obter cuidados de saúde de qualidade. Destaca-se que o Objetivo 1: "Sem Pobreza", Objetivo 4: "Educação de Qualidade", Objetivo 5: "Igualdade de Gênero", Objetivo 6: "Água Limpa e Saneamento" e Objetivo 16: "Paz, Justiça e Instituição Forte", também estão intimamente relacionados ao Objetivo 3 e devem ser resolvidos conjuntamente.

Esse tipo de abordagem baseia-se na definição de saúde da Organização Mundial da Saúde como um estado de completo bem-estar físico, mental e social. Essa definição é ampliada com os conceitos da sociologia médica que criticaram a tendência da sociedade em direção à "medicalização". A sociologia da saúde também enfatiza a importância não apenas da assistência médica, mas também de fatores sociais envolvidos no "modelo de cuidado médico" e "modelo de cuidado social". Assim, para alcançar com êxito os ODS espera-se que nós desempenhemos um papel de advogados da sociologia da saúde.

O próximo Fórum da ISA em Porte Alegre, no Brasil, será realizado entre 14 e 18 de julho de 2020. Muitos trabalhos de pesquisa teórica e empírica com foco em questões de saúde foram selecionados para apresentações orais e apresentações orais curtas. Estou ansiosa para ter discussões significativas com você e continuar progredindo na construção dos ODS para a próxima década.

Muitas felicidades

Miwako Hosoda

Italian version

Saluto della Presidente dell'International Sociological Association, RC15 Sociology of Health

Miwako Hosoda, Università di Seisa, Giappone

Buon Anno!

Considerando il 2020 come un momento di svolta, il mondo sta cercando di cooperare al di là dei confini per invertire il mutamento climatico e adattarsi alle trasformazioni delle strutture industriali e demografiche. Parte di tale sforzo di cooperazione internazionale sono i 17 *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs) definiti dalle Nazioni Unite.

La strada per affrontare le problematiche connesse alla salute è delineata nei SDGs come Obiettivo 3: "Buona Salute e Benessere". In molti paesi, oggi, la copertura sanitaria universale viene perseguita per assicurare che tutte le persone abbiano accesso all'assicurazione sanitaria per un'assistenza sanitaria di qualità. Viene anche precisato che Obiettivo 1: "Nessuna povertà", Obiettivo 4: "Educazione di qualità", Obiettivo 5: "Uguaglianza di genere", Obiettivo 6: "Acqua potabile e servizi igienico-sanitari" e Obiettivo 16: "Pace, giustizia e istituzioni forti" sono strettamente correlati all'Obiettivo 3 e dovrebbero essere perseguiti insieme.

Questo tipo di approccio si basa sulla definizione di salute dell'Organizzazione Mondiale della Sanità come uno stato di completo benessere fisico, mentale e sociale. Questa definizione si sovrappone ulteriormente con i concetti della sociologia della salute, che ha criticato la tendenza societaria verso la "medicalizzazione". La sociologia della salute ha anche continuato a sottolineare l'importanza non solo dell'assistenza medica, ma anche dei fattori sociali implicati nella cura attraverso il suo "modello medico" e il "modello sociale". Pertanto, al fine di raggiungere con successo i SDGs, noi, come sostenitori della sociologia della salute, ci aspettiamo di svolgere un ruolo.

Il prossimo Forum ISA si terrà quest'anno a Porto Alegre in Brasile dal 14 al 18 luglio 2020. Molti lavori di ricerca teorica ed empirica incentrati su problemi di salute sono stati selezionati come presentazioni orali e articoli distribuiti. Non vedo l'ora di avere discussioni significative con voi e di continuare a compiere progressi nel raggiungimento dei SDGs nel prossimo decennio.

I migliori auguri.

Miwako Hosoda



IV ISA Forum of SOCIOLOGY

July 14-18, 2020
Porto Alegre, Brazil

UPDATE ON RC15 SESSIONS AT THE ISA FORUM IN BRAZIL

Program Coordinators:

Nelson BARROS, University of Campinas, Brazil, filice@fcm.unicamp.br

Mike SAKS, University of Suffolk, United Kingdom, m.saks@uos.ac.uk

General information

Just to let you know that of all the abstracts for approved sessions across research and other program committees/groups of the ISA for the IV Forum of Sociology, 8,624 in total were accepted. As you will be aware, we have now made the specific selection of abstracts for RC15 through the relevant session organizers. This has resulted in 142 abstracts being accepted as oral papers, distributed papers, or poster and roundtable presentations. Pleasingly our full allocation of 19 sessions from the ISA has been taken up (including for the business meeting).

Of course the final program for Porto Alegre will be decided once registration fees have been paid by delegates, for which you are reminded that there is a deadline of **19 March 2020** for presenters. Registration payments can be made through the following ISA website: <https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/forum2020/registration/call.cgi>

You are reminded too that a small number of individual registration grants for the forthcoming ISA Forum in Porto Alegre in 2020 are available from the allocation of 2,000 USD for this purpose from the ISA to RC15. To apply, an e-mail requesting a registration grant must be sent directly to the RC15 Program Coordinators by **31 January 2020**. The general rules for application are set out by the ISA as follows:

'Rules

Each Research Committee (RC), Working Group (WG) and Thematic Group (TG) is responsible for allocating registration grant(s) to person(s) selected by its Board, following the criteria established by the ISA.

Eligibility

1. Individual ISA member

Registration grants can be allocated to individual ISA members in good standing (i.e. who have paid the individual membership fee), who are active participants in the conference program.

How to apply:

An e-mail requesting a registration grant must be sent by the participants directly to the RC/WG/TG Program Coordinators by January 31, 2020. Applications for a grant can be submitted to only one RC/WG/TG. The ISA Secretariat will advise the RC/WG/TG if someone has applied to, or has been recommended by, more than one group for the grant.

2. Program Coordinator

In addition to registration grants for active participants in the program, each RC/WG/TG will receive a registration grant for one Program Coordinator. (Note: In the event of multiple program coordinators in an RC/WG/TG, only one grant will be provided.)

Only Program Coordinators who are individual ISA members in good standing (i.e. who have paid the individual membership fee at least two years before the month of the ISA conference) are eligible for a registration grant.

How to apply:

Program Coordinators must submit a request to receive this grant to the ISA Secretariat isa@isa-sociology.org by **January 31, 2020**.

Selection process

1. Each RC/WG/TG will select candidates and allocate the funds available for that group.
2. The Program Coordinator shall decide on allocation in consultation with the RC/WG/TG President and Secretary and the results shall be published at the ISA conference website.
 - 2a. A backup list of potential grant recipients in order of priority shall also be prepared to be used in case someone cancels participation or has been allocated a grant by another RC/WG/TG.
 - 2b. It is recommended to avoid repetition of the same persons who have received grants for previous conferences.
 - 2c. Full amounts of registration grants have to be allocated; grants are not paid in cash but a special code will be given to each participant.
3. A list of selected individuals and registration grant amounts must be sent by the Program Coordinator to the ISA Secretariat (isa@isa-sociology.org) before **February 15, 2020** for verification and approval.
4. Registration grants will be handled directly by the ISA Secretariat prior to the early registration deadline of the conference, **March 19, 2020**.

RC15 sessions

The RC15 sessions that will be run subject to registration numbers, together with the names of session organizers and the original call for abstracts, are listed in updated form below:

Access to "Expensive" Medical Technologies

There is evidence of major social inequalities in access to "expensive" medical technologies, particularly expensive medicines, within and between countries and these will be widening due to increasing pressure on resources particularly in publicly funded health systems.

"Expensive" technology is a relative concept and its significance will depend on the socio-

economic environment and on the cultural meaning assigned to its use. The session will focus on papers involving both theoretical and empirical analysis about gaining access to "expensive" technologies in different health systems in high and low to middle income countries. The session aims to throw light on what pathways patients navigate and negotiate to gain access and the cultural and socio-political influences that enable or provide obstacles to gaining access. Papers can focus on either consumption/demand and/or production/supply side pathways and influences. Examples on the demand side are the use by patients and their relatives of litigation to gain access. Examples on the supply side might include the decision making (front stage/back stage) of rationing or priority setting health agencies, such as CONITEC in Brazil and NICE in England, and how powerful corporate interest groups such as the drug industry may shape these decisions. The organization of the local health system and local culture may also be important influences in shaping different patterns of access to medicines.

Session Organizers:

Michael CALNAN, University of Kent, United Kingdom

Silvana LEITE, University of Santa Catarina, Brazil

Bourdieu and the Inequalities of Healthcare

It has become increasingly necessary in our globalized world to seek better understandings of the inequalities of health, and the role our healthcare systems play in mediating or reproducing these inequalities. This session offers an opportunity to engage with Pierre Bourdieu's concepts, including, but not limited to capital, habitus and field, and his unique methodology, and investigate the most significant issues facing healthcare analysts around the world today: Why do health inequalities, such as race, class and gender, persist, despite the growing levels of funding from governments and the private sector? Why is it so difficult to reform and improve healthcare services? Why do patients find the healthcare system so difficult to access and navigate? This session seeks both conceptual and empirical papers that address these questions about Bourdieu and the inequalities of health and healthcare.

Session Organizer: **Fran COLLYER**, University of Sydney, Australia

Digitalization and Health

The advancing digitalization of medicine and health promoting options will further change the healthcare system in the coming years. Technical innovations in hardware and software will enable personalized prevention, more precise diagnoses and more individualized therapies. How far it will improve health care and reduce costs in the long term, is part of current studies which will be brought together in this session. For this reason, we welcome contributions, that deal with digitalized health promotion and disease treatment and contributions that examine the acceptance of these digital applications in the population with empirical data (A). Furthermore, we are interested in conferring about cause-effects and selection effects (B). Experimental approaches are desirable. The interplay of regional healthcare structures and digitalized possibilities can be addressed as well (C). These insights may help generating health related social sustainability (D), which can also be discussed.

Session Organizers:

Peter KRIWY, Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany

Philip ADEBAHR, University of Technologie Chemnitz, Germany,

From Social Suffering to a Sociology of Negative?

Following seminal publications, such as Kleinman, Das and Lock (1997), Bourdieu *et al.* (1999), Frank (2001), Wilkinson (2005), and Pickering and Rosati (2012), the concept of "social suffering" has acquired currency in contemporary social science as a means to refer to lived experiences of deprivation, frustration, and affliction by oppressed people in certain social situations. With reference to the concept of social suffering, it becomes possible to draw critical attention to how subjective components of distress are rooted and conditioned by social processes and cultural conditions of structural violence and political oppression.

However, we can wonder whether the scientific legitimation of the concept of "suffering" can go beyond its social qualification to include other dimensions: such as the bio-psychic dimension of pain, mental and physical illness, and disability, which highlights the vulnerability of human nature in an increasingly performative society; or the ecological dimension with environmental disasters as a consequence of the illusion of an unlimited development and of non-consideration of ecosystem balances; or the existential dimension with the loss of meaning in a post-secularized society produced by the end of the "great ideological narratives" of the twentieth century and the increasing digitalization and virtualization of reality. All this brings out that "dimension of the negative" which, often interpreted by the different mythologies and religious theodicies of the past as evidence of the existence of "evil", is actually an unavoidable component of the human condition that allows us to highlight the intrinsic and extrinsic limits of social action.

Session Organizer:

Guido GIARELLI, University 'Magna Graecia' - Catanzaro, Italy

Health Policy Reforms in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Challenges of the Twenty-First Century

Governments in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) have developed health policies toward universal health care but these efforts have not yielded the desired results. The economic downturn from the 1980s forced most Africa governments to turn to the Bretton Woods Institutions for financial assistance, and in the process, initiated policy reforms that were underpinned by a Western neo-liberal ideology. The result has been uneven successes with regards to accessibility, equity, and quality of service. While results are not uniform in specific terms, a general pattern of low performance may be discernible, with lessons to be learned. In this session, we invite scholars to engage in a discussion on these health challenges despite the significant progress made in the democratic process of most African countries since the turn of the century. The session will examine the evolution of health policies in SSA and an evaluation of the progress made to date. The session will be guided by five overarching questions:

1. What political and economic conditions necessitated health reforms in SSA?
2. How have health reforms addressed issues of health quality, accessibility, and equity?
3. In what ways have reforms impacted health conditions of citizens?
4. What lessons can we learn from historical and contemporary challenges? and
5. What appropriate health policy can be proffered towards achieving universal health coverage in SSA?

We request the submission of abstracts, which may be theoretical or based on empirical study of specific countries in the region, that address any of the above questions.

Session Organizer: **Alex ASAKITIKPI**, Monash University South Africa, South Africa

Health Research in International Perspective Parts I and II

International comparative research increasingly addresses health and health behaviour and highlights the enormous differences in health outcomes between countries. However, theory-driven studies that take the influencing factors at the macro and micro levels into account have so far been rare. In our opinion, the previously applied theory of relative deprivation does not go far enough. Therefore, we welcome (A) contributions which cover theoretical work, taking both the micro and macro level into account, to explain individual variation in health outcomes; or (B) theory-driven empirical research testing social mechanisms with sound analytical strategies; or (C) contributions that examine and discuss the methodological comparability of health items against the background of different cultural meanings.

Session Organizers:

Christiane GROSS, University of Wuerzburg, Germany

Peter KRIWY, Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany

Health Social Movements

It has been traditionally thought that there was an unbalanced relationship between patients and professionals. However, patient participation and collaboration with health professionals have been changing this hierarchical status. Healthcare reform that responds to unmet needs is a most urgent challenge and patients have recently been taking important roles. While many individuals and agencies, including governments, associations of healthcare professionals and lawyers have worked to solve these problems, the collective action of people with illnesses and disabilities and their families is just as important. By exchanging information among international sociological scholars, this session aims to explore changes in the relationship between patients and professionals by analyzing the patients' interaction with professionals in the healthcare field. Papers from studies conducted at local, national and international levels that contribute to conceptualization and/or methodological and empirical developments in this field are welcome.

Session Organizer: **Miwako HOSODA**, Seisa University, Japan

Medicalization of Sexual and Reproductive Health in the Global South

Sexual and reproductive health is increasingly defined and treated as a medical problem. The sociological framework of medicalization, the process by which non-medical problems become defined and/or treated as medical problems, has critical usefulness for understanding contemporary sexual and reproductive health issues. Empirical research to date has however mainly been focused on high income countries, for example on topics such as the medicalization of sexual dysfunction, the rise of cosmetic genital surgeries such as "rejuvenation", the great amount of research done on fertility and childbirth. Increasing medicalization trends in sexual and reproductive health are also arising in the Global South, and develop simultaneously with the global health agenda being increasingly medicalized. In this session we want to shed light on the combination of both trends by presenting various research on the medicalization of sexual and reproductive health in the Global South and its policy implications and associated stratification mechanisms. Applying a sociological view on medicalization processes forces us to not merely look at the biomedical aspects of medicalization, but look at the broader social and political context including multiple determinants of health stratification. Moreover, discussing the medicalization of sexual and reproductive health issues in the Global South would bring with it an interesting discussion of the applicability of the current medicalization framework to the Global South. Possible topics might be the medicalization of female genital mutilation/cutting, increasing amount of C-sections as a consequence of medicalization of childbirth, oral pre-exposure (PrEP) prophylaxis programs for HIV patients, and so on.

Session Organizers:

Nina VAN EEKERT, University of Antwerp & Ghent University, Belgium

Sarah VAN DE VELDE, University of Antwerp, Belgium

Medication as a New Social Tool for Workplace Performance? Revisiting the Dissemination of Pharmaceuticalization

The new social uses of medicines for physical, cognitive and social performance enhancement purposes, have attracted significant theoretical/sociological reflections, often centred on the concept of pharmaceuticalization (Williams et al. 2009, Abraham 2010). The heuristic value of this concept has shed light on new performance needs and/or demands, which are not dissociable from the modern social instrumentality of medicines use for non-medical purposes. The non-medical use of medicines has become a way through which to achieve a certain image or socially expected performance standards (Rose 2009). The sociological application of this analytical approach in labour environments, however, is still scarce. Yet, given the current transformations in productive processes and standards for work performance, work contexts constitute sites with a particular social permeability to the advancement, in various forms, of the pharmaceuticalization of work capacity and its enhancement. Therefore, the aim of this session is to gather contributions to the analytical depth of specificities of pharmaceuticalization in work contexts and its forms of dissemination.

Particularly, we invite papers that look at (A) different social dissemination routes/pathways of pharmaceuticalization; (B) work contexts, perceived as "structured and structuring" spaces (Bourdieu 1979), and their effect on the (re)production of cultural dispositions to such performance consumptions; and (C) consumption trajectories and their connections and borders between pharmaceuticals, natural products or illegal stimulants. We welcome papers that engage with these or related issues, based on empirical studies and theoretical and/or methodological reflections.

Session Organizers:

Noemia LOPES, ISCTE - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa; IUEM- Instituto Universitário Egas Moniz, Portugal

Carla F. RODRIGUES, AISSR, University of Amsterdam; ISCTE- Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, Netherlands

Mental Health in Latin America: A New Social Question? (joint RC15/RC49 session)

Latin American countries have faced accelerated processes of modernisation, demographic and epidemiological transitions. In this context, the high prevalence of mental health problems in some countries raises the question of whether Latin American countries are dealing with a "new social question" related to new dynamic of organisation in labour markets and the social support system, the transformation of social structure, the implementation of new economic models, and the subjective effects of poverty and inequalities in everyday life. The aim of this regular session is to study the boundaries between social suffering and mental health in Latin-American countries from a historical, sociocultural and political perspective. Four or five presentations (20-minutes presentation) will be selected around the following themes:

- (1) Poverty, inequality, vulnerability and mental health in Latin America.
- (2) Social policies, health systems and mental health in Latin America.
- (3) Social dynamics and mental health: migration, social conflict,
- (4) Social Sciences perspectives and mental health in Latin America (historical, ethnographic and epidemiological approaches to suffering and mental disorders).

The session is expected to represent at least three different Latin American countries.

Session Organizer:

Alvaro JIMENEZ, University of Chile, Chile

Participation in (and with) Digital Health

The participation of citizens and/or patients in research, policy making, science and technology developments and healthcare is now common place, arguably becoming a new orthodoxy for publicly-funded projects of all kinds. Participation is no longer understood simply as a "right of citizenship" (Gaventa 2002) but also, following developments at both national and supranational levels, as an "obligation" on public policy makers and policy-related researchers alike. Such an obligation to participate then gives rise to inevitable questions about what happens when these societal actors do work together in this way. Another important development, and a key aspect of what has become known, in Europe at least, as Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), is the increasing incorporation of social scientists into project teams on the grounds that they can take responsibility for ensuring that the "ethical, legal and social implications" (ELSI) of new developments are adequately addressed. This session explores what happens when social scientists get involved in *digital health* projects, examining some of the opportunities and challenges that occur when we seek to intervene in, as well as understand, digital health developments. We are particularly interested in papers that work at the boundary of sociology of health and science and technology studies (STS) to explore participation at one (or both) of the following levels: participation as it occurs in the development of digital health technologies; and participation in health care through the uptake and use of digital health technologies.

Session Organizers:

Fllis HENWOOD, University of Brighton, United Kingdom

Benjamin MARENT, University of Brighton, United Kingdom

Patients Participation to Make a Collective Impact

In modern times, the main disease structure has changed from infectious disease to chronic disease, and many people are now living with illness. Despite the patients' current situation, society still expects people with disease to behave consistently with the sick role which Talcott Parson's previously defined. Once people are diagnosed, for example, as a cancer patient, they may lose their job and social participation opportunities and their hope to live. To change this situation, people living with disease do a variety of things, for instance, changing their illness image and repelling social stigma which is related to diseases by collaborating with other stakeholders such as medical and health professionals, persons from the workplace, fellow patients, and their community. Although there are many challenges, we can see the collective impact as a result of this movement. By exchanging information among international sociological scholars, this session aims to explore the challenge for stakeholders in each society of theoretical and empirical research on the movement of patients and supporters who change this social norm to counter social barriers and stigma, and strengthen discussions on a global level. Studies conducted at local, national and international levels that contribute to conceptualization and/or methodological and empirical developments in this field are welcome.

Session Organizer:

Miwako HOSODA, Seisa University, Japan

Sociology in the Field of Health and Health in the Field of Sociology: Challenges of the Sociology of Health (Roundtable)

Despite the long tradition of research in the Sociology of Health, the scope of the subjects investigated and the possible fields of application present important challenges for the analysis of the constitution of this area of knowledge. The complexity is one of several puzzles faced by the researcher. This phenomenon is understood, firstly, as a consequence of the expansion of the sociological analysis frameworks on subjects related to health policy; health risks analysis; social representations of health, body and medicine; global health; and epistemology and history of medical knowledge, among others; secondly, by the growing presence of social scientists in interdisciplinary investigations. The identification of borders and their possible spaces of interaction require articulations that allow the recognition of differences within a framework of legitimacy, dignity and equality, replacing subalternization, inferiorization and the exclusionary power standards imposed by the fields of Sociology and Health. This session proposal intends to analyze the challenges and potentialities of the Sociology of Health, from questions of the field of Sociology placed in the field of Health and vice versa, at national and international level, and to reflect on the scope of new approaches capable of dealing with asymmetrical relations in the context of contemporary national and global challenges.

Session Organizers:

Marcia GRISOTTI, Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil

Aurea IANNI, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil

Nelson BARROS, University of Campinas, Brazil

Martinho SILVA, University of State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Luiz Antonio CASTRO-SANTOS, University of State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Sociology of Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Despite advances achieved by the biomedical model of healthcare, there has been an exponential growth in the use and interest in Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) in the health field worldwide. Its increasing popularity has been followed by a proliferation of sociological research on different dimensions of this phenomenon. In this context, CAM has attracted social researchers to establish the field of the *Sociology of Complementary and Alternative Medicine*. The aim of this session is to discuss theoretical and methodological developments related to the Sociology of CAM through diverse analytical and empirical research on CAM dynamics across different countries and

experiences. This session attempts to deepen sociological debate on the emergence of heterodox practices in healthcare and on the impact of these on contemporary medicine and society, not least in the modern Western world. Papers are therefore invited at a macro, meso and micro level focusing on different facets of this fascinating debate.

Session Organizers:

Nelson BARROS, University of Campinas, Brazil

Mike SAKS, University of Suffolk, United Kingdom

The Professionalization of Healthcare: Facing the Challenges of the Twenty-First Century
Parts I, II and III (joint RC15/RC52 session)

The professionalization of healthcare has been seen as one of the great developments over much of the past two centuries. Together with advances in medical science, it brought with it a belief in progress and a sense that human beings might lead longer and richer lives. However, following the 1960s/70s counter cultural critique, a series of well-publicized medical scandals, technological change, greater user engagement, a growing appreciation of the value of other forms of health work, and the intensification of organizational management, health professions from medicine to nursing in the modern world appear to be in retreat. Amongst other things, they seem to have lost public trust and have been ever more penned in by regulatory reform, which has increased their exposure to external criticism and control. Papers are welcomed on both theoretical and empirical aspects of the changes involved and the challenges that health professions now face in the twenty-first century. Are health professions best considered as problematic and perhaps counterproductive groups in the division of labour or are they still important saviours of humanity in an ever more complex world? What form might professionalization in healthcare most helpfully take in face of the changes that have occurred in the societies in which they are embedded?

Session Organizers:

Mike SAKS, University of Suffolk, United Kingdom

Joana ALMEIDA, University of Bedfordshire, United Kingdom

RC15 Poster Session

This RC15 poster session is provided to give the opportunity for delegates to present on the sociology of health in a different format to oral presentations or distributed papers.

Participants should display their posters and then feel free to ask questions to presenters as they view the displays.

Session Organizer:

Nelson BARROS, University of Campinas, Brazil

CONFERENCE REPORT 2019

A report on the 1st Sociology of Health Forum in Moscow



The first Forum with international participation “Sociology of Health: Focusing on a Patient-Orientated Approach” was held in Moscow on 12 November 2019. It was arranged by the NIOZMM Research Institute for Healthcare Organization and Medical Management on behalf of Moscow Healthcare Department.

The Forum was attended by heads of federal and regional authorities, scientific and educational organizations, chief physicians of medical organizations, representatives of patient organizations and leading companies in the field of health sociology. ISA RC15 members, Miwako Hosoda (Seisa University) and Ellen Kuhmann (Hannover Medical School), were invited as guest speakers for the main symposium

The main topic of the Forum in 2019 was the issue of patient-centred care. On the Forum platform the following topics were discussed:

- problems of new methodological solutions (such as big data, NPS, social media analytics in medical sociological research)
- sociology in management decision making (such as developing communication strategies for a health facility, improving doctor-patient interactions, building feedback systems, using sociology in psychiatry reforms)
- search for a new development strategy in personnel policy (such as the personnel potential of healthcare system, medical professions of the future, development of personal competencies of managers and employees of medical organizations, formation of the image of a medical specialist)
- people`s expectations from health care (such as population needs, fears, stigma, the role of the health care system in public health, wellbeing and modern technology, health-related behaviour, methods for social engineering in healthcare and spreading a healthy lifestyle).

For more information see the forum website: <https://socforum.niozz.ru/en/>

For collaboration and exchange of experience, please contact Ignat Bogdan, PhD, Head of Medical and Social Research Division, NIOZMM Research Institute for Healthcare Organization and Medical Management. E-mail: bogdaniv@zdrav.mos.rus

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE 2020

8th STS Italia Conference



The 8th STS Italia Conference will be hosted by the University of Trieste, Italy, from 18 June to 20 June 2020, by the Italian Society of Science and Technology Studies. The conference will be an opportunity to present empirical and theoretical work from a variety of disciplines: sociology, anthropology, design, economics, history, law, philosophy, psychology and semiotics.

The conference will be an opportunity to present empirical and theoretical work from a variety of disciplines: sociology, anthropology, design, economics, history, law, philosophy, psychology and semiotics. The focal theme of the 8th STS Italia Conference will be "Dis/Entangling Technoscience: Vulnerability, Responsibility and Justice". This broad theme refers to the complex and ambivalent role of technoscience and innovation in constituting societies – making possibilities flourish, but also creating new vulnerabilities. The conference will include 33 tracks, which are clustered into five thematic streams. The tracks focus on several topics, including biomedicine, digital platforms and media, work and organizations, expertise and public policy, ethics of technology and innovation, and governance of science and technology at large.

Abstracts (written in English, or in Italian in case of tracks in two languages) should be submitted by **9 February 2020** to the conference email address (stsitaliaconf@gmail.com) and to the emails of convenors' selected track. Track Convenor(s) will be responsible for reviewing, accepting/rejecting and organizing submissions into their track.

Submission (to the conference email address and to the emails of convenors' selected track) should include:

1. Author's name and surname, affiliation and email address
2. Presentation title
3. Abstract (less than 300 words)

The thematic streams of the conference are:

- Biomedicine, bodies and technoscience
- Platforms, digital technologies and media environments
- Rethinking science, technology and innovation: emerging challenges
- Including, excluding and connecting through/within technoscience
- Governing and reshuffling technoscience and innovation processes.

There will also be an open stream on:

- Science and Technology Studies in post-socialist countries/in Central and Eastern European countries.

For further details please see: <https://www.stsitaliaconf2020.com/call-for-abstracts>

POST-DOCTORAL OPPORTUNITY

An exciting opportunity for a two-year post-doctoral position in Health Services Research exists at Aarhus University. This involves conducting a qualitative study of the organization of intersectoral coordination of lifelong prevention. The candidate will be based at the Research Unit for Organising Public Health. For the full job advert follow this link <https://lnkd.in/dHzbrFb> Please contact Viola Burau (viola@ph.au.dk) if you are considering applying.

The postdoctoral candidate will be located in the Department of Public Health, Faculty of Health, Aarhus University, from 1 August 2020 or as soon as possible thereafter. The position is a two-year appointment. The candidate will join a multidisciplinary team of researchers in the Research Unit for Organising Public Health.

As a post-doctoral researcher at the Department of Public Health, you will be part of an ambitious and internationally recognized department, where we work together to promote public health through research into areas that can prevent, treat and alleviate disease. We are involved in broad collaboration both internally and externally. We share our knowledge with citizens, decision-makers, business and industry, practitioners and other researchers – in municipalities, in the regions and both nationally and internationally. The department either contributes to or is responsible for teaching in medicine, public health science, sport science, optometry and nursing. At the Department of Public Health, you will have approximately 150 colleagues, including ninety academic staff members and a corresponding number of PhD students. We work closely with one another across different fields of study and prioritize a healthy work environment. The general tone among colleagues is informal.

BOOK SERIES

SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS: FUTURE INTERNATIONAL DIRECTIONS

This series co-edited by Mike Saks and Mike Dent centres on the production of high quality, original work in the sociology of health professions with an innovative focus on the future directions of such professions. It covers a wide range of health professional areas, and interrelated health fields such as social care, medicine, nursing and allied health.

It is oriented towards final year/postgraduate students, academic lecturers and researchers, practitioners and policy makers. Its general aims are:

- To inform/stimulate debate about the sociology of health professions
- To influence policy development and practice in the fields concerned
- To make a significant contribution to thinking in the sociology of health
- To produce original national/international work of recognised high quality.

This is a reminder that proposals for future books in the series are invited. These should be submitted in the first instance to the series co-editors Mike Saks (m.saks@uos.ac.uk) and Mike Dent (Mike.Dent@staffs.ac.uk).

NEW BOOKS

Il Servizio Sanitario Nazionale italiano in prospettiva europea: Un'analisi comparata

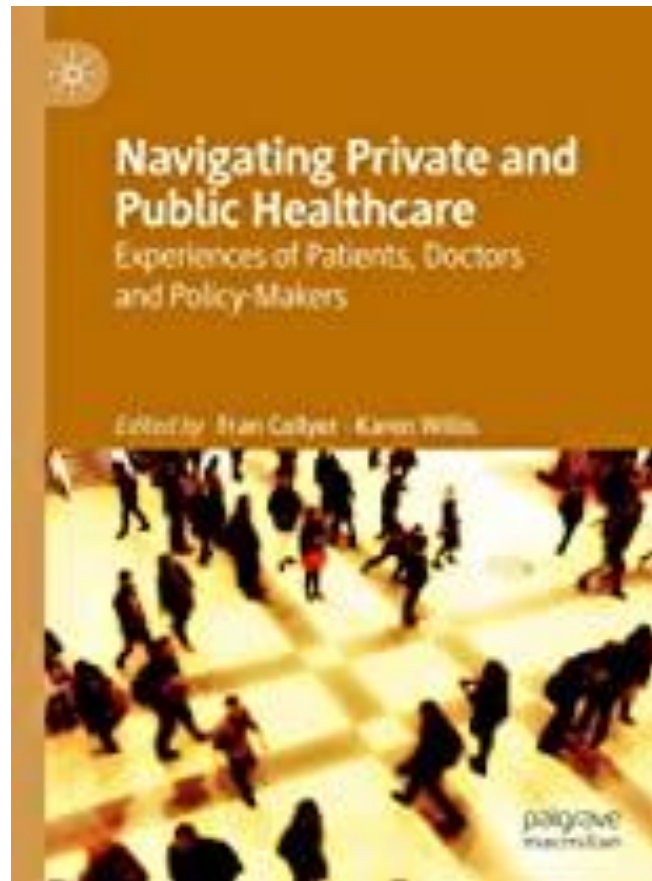
Guido Giarelli and Vito Giovannetti (editors) 2019 FrancoAngeli



This new book (in Italian) examines the Italian National Health Service in comparative perspective. It is based on a conference held in Taranto in Italy in 2018 and contains contributions from a range of internationally-renowned contributors. Please address any queries to Guido Giarelli. Email: giarelli@unicz.it

Navigating Private and Public Healthcare: Experiences of Patients, Doctors and Policy-Makers

Fran Collyer and Karen Willis (editors) 2020 Palgrave Macmillan



This edited collection focuses on the global growth of privatisation and private sector medicine in both developed and lesser developed countries, and the impact of this on patients, health workers, managers and policy-makers. Drawing upon sociological theories, concepts and insights, as well as experts from several countries with extensive experience in researching the field either nationally or internationally, the collection offers a unique perspective on healthcare services and healthcare systems: a view from those trying to access healthcare services, working inside health systems, or responsible for managing and organizing services. Collectively, the chapters contribute an international perspective on the navigation of healthcare systems, and address the growing salience of 'choice' between public and private medicine in a variety of different national systems and contexts.

For further details, please see:

<https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9789813292079>

CALL FOR PAPERS

Call for Papers for a special issue of *Health Sociology Review*: Towards a Global Sociology of Trans and Gender Diverse Health

After years of advocacy for improved recognition and action, the health and well-being of trans and gender diverse people is receiving overdue attention. In some parts of the world, gender-affirming care is made available in forms which explicitly support a diverse range of gender identities, service preferences and affirmation goals. However, good quality models of care are unevenly available and face a range of threats, creating heightened uncertainty for those who need to access them.

The aim of this special issue is to enhance knowledge on what supports and complicates the provision of health care and support for trans and gender diverse people across different parts of the world.

We are seeking both empirical research and theoretical contributions on such topics as:

- Health care expectations and experiences
- Systems and training for inclusive and affirming healthcare
- Relationships between public, private and community health systems
- Impact of violence, poverty and homelessness on health and well-being
- Interplay of media, political, policy and research perspectives
- Community representation and leadership, including peer inclusion
- Challenges collecting, sharing and reporting accurate and meaningful data
- Experiences and pressures for health and other professionals.

We encourage submissions which speak to different cultural contexts and health systems and recognise the diverse needs and understandings of health and well-being among trans and gender diverse people, including in the types of care and support desired. We value approaches which recognize diversity in gender expressions and identities, including transgender, transsexual, gender diverse, non-binary, genderqueer and others. Partnerships with established and emerging trans and gender diverse researchers, theorists, clinicians and community leaders are particularly encouraged. We also hope to feature a range of approaches to informing sociological inquiry, including quantitative and qualitative research, arts-based and reflective methods, and critical and conceptual analyses.

The special issue will be edited by a team of researchers and advocates working at the intersections of health, gender and sexuality: Associate Professor Christy Newman (UNSW Sydney), Dr Cristyn Davies (University of Sydney), Professor Kerry Robinson (Western Sydney University), Emeritus Professor Peter Aggleton (UNSW/ANU), Dr Son Vivienne (TransGender Victoria, Minus18) and Liz Duck-Chong (transgender writer/advocate). A commentary will be provided by Professor Emerita Raewyn Connell.

Submission guidelines

Full paper submissions are due by **15 June 2020**. Please email Associate Professor Christy Newman at c.newman@unsw.edu.au to indicate your interest in submitting a manuscript, or for more information.

Please review our Instructions for Authors to ensure you have everything required to move through peer review, production and publication. When you submit your manuscript, please mark your paper for consideration in the *Trans and Gender Diverse Health* special issue. <https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rhsr>

Health Sociology Review is ranked Q1 in Scimago and offers a generous 7,500 word limit, and a short review timeframe. Submissions must make a clear contribution to sociological inquiry relevant to health, but may be informed by conceptual and empirical debates from a broader range of health and social sciences. All manuscripts will undergo the usual blind peer review process and only those that comply with standards for publication in HSR will be accepted.

ISA RC15 Board members

President: Miwako Hosoda, Seisa University, Japan (to December 2022)

Vice-President/Newsletter Editor: Mike Saks, University of Suffolk, United Kingdom (to December 2022)

Secretary/Treasurer: Nelson Barros, University of Campinas, Brazil (to December 2026)

Other members:

Alex Asakitiki, Monash University, South Africa (to December 2022)

Susan Bell, Drexel University, USA (to December 2026)

Michael Calnan, University of Kent, United Kingdom (to December 2022)

Sigrun Olafsdottir, University of Iceland, Iceland (to December 2026)

Farah Purwaningrum, University of Sydney, Australia (to December 2026)

Items for the next issue

If you have any items relevant to RC15 – from conference reports/announcements to publications – for inclusion in the next Newsletter, please send them by the end of June 2020 at the latest to Mike Saks. Email: m.saks@uos.ac.uk

Membership

The membership dues for RC15 are 60 USD (20 USD reduction) for four-year membership. The ISA membership registration form is available at: <https://isa.enoah.com/Sign-In>