

In recent years, translation (broadly defined) has emerged as a central research strand. Explorations of the epistemic process and impact of knowledge translation across linguistic, geographical, spatial boundaries are crucial in our understandings of knowledge making. Pre-modern medical and health-related knowledge provides a distinct and compelling case in histories of translation, knowledge transfer, and appropriation.

Understandings of the human body, and of diseases and their cure, are shaped and informed by a range of religious, cultural, environmental and intellectual factors. Medical theories, practices and materials, therefore, rarely cross over linguistic, cultural or other boundaries unchanged. To communicate the concepts underpinning a medical theory in a new linguistic and cultural space means not only translating these ideas into a new language, but also explaining them so that they make sense within existing local systems of medical belief.

At the workshop at the MPIWG in Berlin we will focus on the translation of medical practices, asking questions such as: What kinds of knowledge easily crossed linguistic and geographical borders? What were the points of resistance and tension? How did epistemic, social, political and economic structures impact upon 'translation'? How did our historical actors 'translate' embodied knowledge and hands-on practices? What roles did visual images and material objects play in the transfer and appropriation of health-related knowledge? This workshop will be followed by a workshop in London (Wellcome Library), on 7-8 July 2017, where we will pay special attention to materials, visual objects, and tools and techniques.

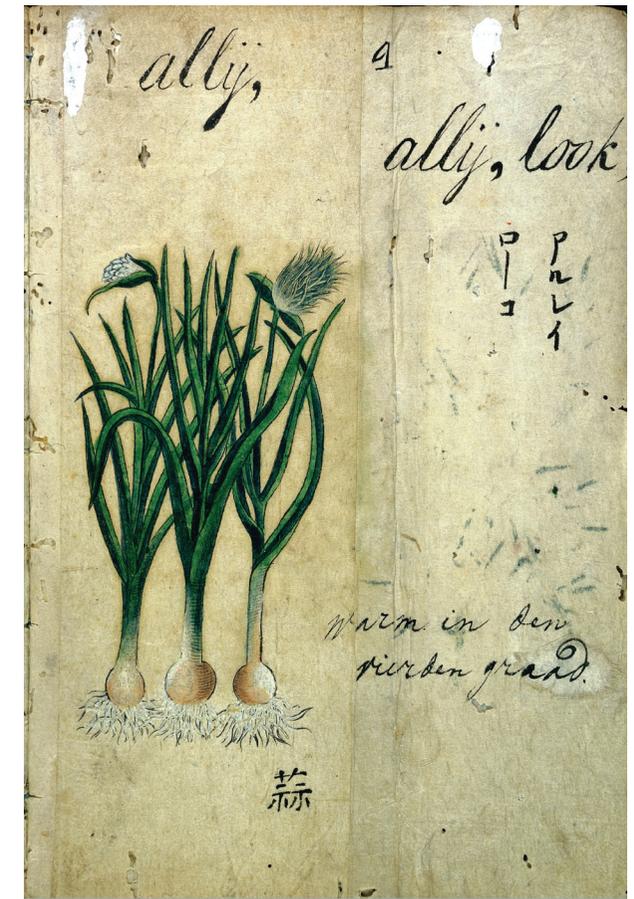
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www.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de/en/research/projects/translating-medicine-pre-modern-world

Translating Medicine in the Pre-modern World: Knowledge and Practice

23-24 JUNE 2017



Organisation:

Tara Alberts, Sietske Fransen and Elaine Leong

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

MPIWG Room 215

9:30 Coffee and Welcome
Tara Alberts (University of York)
Elaine Leong (MPIWG) and
Sietske Fransen (University of
Cambridge)

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-14:50

10:00-10:50 **Knowledge to Heal and to
Harm: African-European
Medical Exchanges in the
15th and 16th Centuries**
Iona McCleery (University of
Leeds)

15:00-15:50

11:00-11:50 **Tactile Practices and the
Transformation of Body
Knowledge in Eighteenth-
century Japan**
Daniel Trambaiolo (University
of Hong Kong)

16:00-17:00

12:00 -12:50 **Transplanting Neem and
Translating Meanings**
Anna Winterbottom (University
of Sussex)

18:30

**History of One Text?
The House and Field
Pharmacy between Latin,
German and Russian**
Clare Griffin (MPIWG)

**Medieval Merchant
Companies and the
Centralization of Secret
Knowledge**
Matt Sargent (University of
Southern California)

**Digital tools for Mapping
Material Practice, Drugs and
Recipes**
Michael Stanley-Baker and Brent
Ho (MPIWG)
Option to play around with
MARKUS with Brent's help or
beer @ the Luisa

Drinks and Dinner @ the Luisa
(Königin-Luise-Straße 40 – 42,
14195, Berlin)

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

MPIWG Main Conference Room

9:15-9:30 Coffee

9:30-10:20 **Medieval Catalan Translations
on Women's Health**
Montserrat Cabré (Universidad
de Cantabria)

10:30-11:20 **Urgent Communication:
Early Printing on Epidemic
Diseases**
Elma Brenner (Wellcome
Library)

11:30-12:20 **Translating Manchu Bodies
into Household Spaces**
Carla Nappi (University of
British Columbia)

12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 **Concluding Roundtable**
Remarks from: Sonja Brentjes
(MPIWG), Sandra Cavallo
(Royal Holloway), Hansun
Hsiung (MPIWG), Mårten
Söderblom Saarela (MPIWG)
and Claudia Stein (University
of Warwick/MPIWG)