



Conference

Translation in Medicine. How to Deal with Incompatible Information and Multiple Meanings?

November 21-23, 2018

IFK

Reichsratsstraße 17, 1010 Vienna

Languages have a life of their own. This insight resembles Quine’s famous dictum that all translations remain indeterminate. In medicine however, translation is a daily practice and has to work from complaints via signs and symptoms to diagnosis and treatment. Also patients are translating: from ailments, pain, obstacles in life and suffering into deliverable messages to the physician. In addition, translation has become a buzzword for delivering the results of biomedical research to the patient, typically conceived as a unidirectional process “from bench to bedside”. Today, translation occurs in medicine between languages so different as genomics, epigenetics, and health data by personal monitoring and contexts so complex as existential situations that come with severe illnesses and shared-decision making under clinical constraints. Translation in medicine thus covers a terrain much broader than currently debated under the heading “translational medicine”.

Indeterminacy intervenes into translational operations on all levels. There is simply no secure and evident “bridge” from bench to bedside and from bedside to lifeworld, as the different data, discourses, and meanings do not match easily and the complexities of the lifeworld have to be fed into the clinical decision making. Styles of reasoning clash with different practices of conceptualizing and categorizing. Criteria of judgments and decisions norms deviate already within the various branches of biomedical research. The meanings of this biological information diverge further into different realms of understanding such as the patients’ perspectives and the therapeutic regimes of the clinic – to name just the two most obvious.

The conference shall explore the epistemological and hermeneutic challenges of translation by juxtaposing the pragmatics of translational settings in medicine with the *problematique* of translation as approached from science studies, philosophy and anthropology.

IFK	Wednesday, November 21, 2018
18.15	<p>Welcome Thomas Macho</p> <p>THE NECESSITY AND IMPOSSIBILITY OF TRANSLATION IN CLINICAL PRACTICE</p> <p>A ROUND TABLE WITH Shai Brill, Teodora Manea Hauskeller, Ulrike Kluge, Christian Schubert</p> <p>Chair: Christoph Rehmann-Sutter</p>

9.30	Introductory remarks Cornelius Borck
	SECTION I – THE DECONSTRUCTION OF TRANSLATION AS INFORMATION PROCESSING Chair: Cornelius Borck
09.45	Gail Weiss Translating Lived Experiences Across Multiple ‘World’s of Sense’
10.30	Erika Dyck The Poetics of Psychosis: Madness, Patients, and the role of Empathy in Translation
11.15	Coffee Break
11.45	Lisa Käll No simple loss: Expressions of Subjectivity in Alzheimer’s Disease
12.30	Panel Discussion Commentary: Shai Lavi / Christina Schües
13.15	Lunch Break
	SECTION II – EPISTEMIC REGIMES AND NEW ONTOLOGIES Chair: Christina Schües
15.00	Alberto Cambrosio Translations, ‘Disruptions’, Re-assemblages: Rethinking cancer clinical trials in the 21 st century
15.45	Katrin Solhdju Caring for Abstractions <i>and</i> Practices. Challenges for the Medical Humanities
16.30	Coffee Break
17.00	Monica Greco Co-translating indeterminacy: pragmatics of explanation in the Symptoms Clinic
17.45	Panel Discussion Commentary: Jiska Cohen-Mansfield / Bernhard Wieser
18.30	End

SECTION III – LIFE MADE INTO NETWORKS OF DATAChair: **Christoph Rehmann-Sutter**

- 09.30 **Hauke Busch**
Translating OMICS data into clinical decisions – woes and virtues of personalized oncology
- 10.15 **Carlo Caduff**
Knowing, Naming, Translating
- 11.00 Coffee Break
- 11.30 **Henrik Vogt**
Preventive precision medicine in the human domain:
Translational challenges in the era of big data and systems medicine
- 12.15 **Panel Discussion**
Commentary: Barbara Prainsack / Staffan Müller-Wille
- 13.00 Lunch Break
- SECTION IV – UNTRANSLATABILITY**
Chair: **Thomas Macho**
- 15.00 **Haim Hazan**
Where there are no others: Terms of untranslatability
- 15.45 **Stefan Willer**
Becoming a Patient: The Communication of Suffering in Oliver Sacks and J.M. Coetzee
- 16.30 Coffee Break
- 17.00 **Havi Carel**
Healthcare Practice, Epistemic Injustice, and Naturalism
- 17.45 **Panel Discussion**
Commentary: Cornelius Borck / Christoph Rehmann-Sutter
- 18.30 Closing Remarks
**Cornelius Borck, Christoph Rehmann-Sutter, Christina Schües
and conference participants**
- 19.00 End

Concept:

Cornelius Borck (IMGWF, University of Lübeck), Christina Schües (IMGWF, University of Lübeck) and Christoph Rehmann-Sutter (IMGWF, University of Lübeck)

Participants:

Shai Brill (Tel Aviv University)
Hauke Busch (University of Lübeck)
Carlo Caduff (King's College London)
Alberto Cambrosio (McGill University, Montreal)

Havi Carel (University of Bristol)
Jiska Cohen-Mansfield (Tel Aviv University)
Erika Dyck (University of Saskatchewan)
Monica Greco (Goldsmiths College, University of London)
Teodora Manea Hauskeller (University of Exeter)
Haim Hazan (Tel Aviv University)
Lisa Käll (Stockholm University)
Ulrike Kluge (Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin)
Shai Lavi (Tel Aviv University)
Thomas Macho (IFK, Wien)
Staffan Müller-Wille (University of Exeter)
Barbara Prainsack (Universität Wien)
Christian Schubert (Medical University of Innsbruck)
Katrín Solhdju (Université de Mons)
Henrik Vogt (NTNU Trondheim)
Gail Weiss (The George Washington University, Washington D.C.)
Bernhard Wieser (IFZ Graz)
Stefan Willer (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

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