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In the Journals... July (2/2)

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By Melanie Boeckmann

Submissions to a special thematic series on “Medical Tourism – Concepts, Ethics, And Practices” for the journal [Philosophy, Ethics and Humanities in Medicine](#) can be turned in until 1 December 2011. Please refer to the journal website for more information.

The journal’s current issue contains two interesting articles on the mind. In [Dialectics of mindfulness: implications for western medicine](#), Sauer et al. discuss difficulties in the application of the concept of mindfulness through describing five dialectical positions – activity vs. passivity, wanting vs. non-wanting, changing vs. non-changing, non-judging vs. non-reacting, and active acceptance vs. passive acceptance. In [Generalized anxiety disorder and online intelligence: A phenomenological account of why worrying is unhelpful](#) by Gerben Meynen, the author argues that while worrying is not a useful coping strategy for GAD, cognitive behavioral therapy is successful in treating GAD. Additionally, Fenella Corrick, Robert Watson and Sanjay Budhdeo submitted a [meeting report](#) on the 2011 Varsity Medical Debate between Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

The [Psychosomatic Medicine](#) July issue offers a collection of several quantitative studies on such diverse topics as the [association between diet and mental disorders](#), [maternal cortisol profiles and gestation length](#) or [associations between depression and inflammation](#). Furthermore, two articles on different aspects of effort-reward imbalance approach this topic from both a [physiological](#) as well as the [psychological](#) perspective.

[Stefan Timmermans](#) gives an insightful account of “success” in failed research in the current [Science, Technology and Human Values](#). Timmermans argues that “negative research findings offer a collective opportunity to define what scientific work is about and [...] the effects of failed experiments depend on individual biography and institutional context” (from the abstract). Also in this journal: [From Brittle Bones to Standard Deviations: The Historical Development of Osteoporosis in the Late Twentieth Century](#), [Wonderful Webcams: About Active Gazes and Invisible Technologies](#), and a case study on [Protesting Mobile Phone Masts](#).

[Social Science and Medicine](#) is full of interesting articles this month, I highly recommend checking it out. For instance, [Park et al.](#) investigate

Hispanic immigrant women's perspective on healthy foods and the New York City retail food environment, Greil et al. discuss [Infertility treatment and fertility-specific distress](#), and [Tickle-Degnen et al.](#) examine culture, gender and health care stigma through practitioners' response to facial masking experienced by people with Parkinson's disease. In addition, Alison Shaw discusses the mediating effects of ethnicity, culture and religion in couples' responses to genetic risk in her article on [Risk and reproductive decisions: British Pakistani couples' responses to genetic counseling](#). Finally, I especially enjoyed [Community researchers conducting health disparities research: Ethical and other insights from fieldwork journaling](#) as it examines "a complex relationship with investigators, the research, and their own research community".

[Subjectivity](#), the journal which "examines the socio-political, cultural, historical and material processes, dynamics and structures of human experience", contains [In Captives of identity: The betrayal of intercultural cooperation](#). Marcelo Svirsky uses the example of an Arab-Jewish bilingual school in Israel to illustrate potential for transformation. Helene Strauss, on the other hand, employs a critical reading of a documentary film in to explore subjectivity in migrants' lives in her article [Cinema of social recuperation: Xenophobic violence and migrant subjectivity in contemporary South Africa](#).

This month's [Transcultural Psychiatry](#) offers articles on psychiatry in Europe and in Asia: [Psychotherapy with immigrant patients in France: An ethnopsychiatric perspective](#), [Translating Fanon in the Italian context: Rethinking the ethics of treatment in psychiatry](#), [Cultural epidemiology of neurasthenia spectrum disorders in four general hospital outpatient clinics of urban Pune, India](#) as well as [Self-immolation, suicide and self-harm in Buddhist and Western traditions](#).

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