



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**

GENEVA SCHOOL
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Department of Sociology



ESHMS 16th biennial congress University of Geneva, 27-29 June 2016

Call for papers

Healthy lives: technologies, policies and experiences

In European societies, the imperative of good health keeps expanding. Health literacy, developments in personalized medicine, health and illness self-monitoring through mobile information and communication technologies, shared medical decision making, rising individualization of risks in health insurances, all support the normative importance of leading healthy lives. In daily life and in encounters with healthcare institutions, individuals are expected to manage their own health through the adoption of healthy behaviours and/or endorsement of patient-centred and family focused care. Healthism, self-surveillance and individual regulation affect the experience of healthy and ill individuals, their relationships with healthcare professionals, but also public health policies and the monitoring of population health. At the same time, different social trends challenge this dominant discourse. Unfavourable conditions in childhood, socioeconomic inequalities, instability of family ties, increasing requirements in job performance, inequalities in access to health care and growing difficulties associated with ageing limit the ability to lead healthy lives. Furthermore, some individuals deliberately challenge the imperative for health and youth, by refusing medical treatments or disease screening, by adopting risky behaviours, or by criticizing health-sustaining technologies and strategies. The conference aims to address the dominant norm of leading healthy lives (technologies, policies and experiences) and to consider the different resources used to reach 'health'. Papers addressing theoretical issues or presenting empirical research, both qualitative and quantitative, are welcomed.

In addition to this central focus, abstracts in the main domains of health and medical sociology are welcomed. Propositions for sessions are also welcomed.

Organization of sessions

Sessions can take either the form of a pre-organized symposium or an open session. A typical session lasts 90 min and includes 3 to 4 papers, there can also be series of sessions on the same themes.

Pre-organized sessions and papers can cover topics under any of the following issues:

- Technologies and policies for healthy lives
- Professional and lay experiences of the health imperative
- Inequalities and social determinants of health
- Risk behaviours
- Gender and health
- Vulnerabilities and health
- Austerity and health
- Health policy
- Health services
- Lifestyles
- Subjective well-being and quality of life
- Welfare states
- Mental health
- Health care and rehabilitation
- Health promotion
- Wellbeing at work
- Life course perspective on health: trajectories and transitions

Deadline for pre-organized sessions: November 20th 2015

Deadline for abstracts: December 20th 2015

www.unige.ch/sciences-societe/socio/healthylives

Organization

ESHMS board (<http://www.eshms.eu/executive-committee>) and local committee

- Claudine Burton-Jeangros, University of Geneva (claudine.jeangros@unige.ch)
- Stéphane Cullati, University of Geneva
- Vanessa Fagnoli, University of Geneva
- Raphaël Hammer, University of Health Sciences (HESAV), Lausanne