

**Humanities, Social Sciences and Medicine Network  
Symposium and Grant Accelerator Workshop  
25 and 26 October 2018  
Japanese Studies Centre**

**Call for papers**

**Day 1: A pill for every ill?: Dialogues on drug practices, possibilities and harms**

The HSSM network at Monash welcome proposed papers for our upcoming symposium on the pharmaceuticalisation of twenty-first century health care practices.

The production, promotion and consumption of drug treatments are significant to economies across the globe. It is argued that prescription and over-the-counter medications figure so prominently in health care that, for many, good health is no longer assumed possible without the involvement of swallowed, sprayed, absorbed and injected substances. Drugs offer possibilities not only to treat illness but to enhance physical and mental capacities. It is also axiomatic that medicines have side effects – some minor and some significant – and the risk of iatrogenic illness is important to clinical practice and public policy. The WHO, for example, has acknowledged the need to encourage pharmaceutical markets and scientific development in harmony with the regulation of health harms. The over-, under- and misuse of psychoactive treatments and antibiotics are major challenges to health care, leading, in the case of antimicrobial resistance, to major threats to everyday medicine. Online access to prescription and drugs is decentring the role of medical experts and troubling the collection of data regarding illness and its treatment. In health care for companion animals, psychoactive medications like Prozac are used to modulate mood.

We seek papers from scholars in the humanities, social sciences and medicine on these and other themes pertaining to therapeutic pharmacy and society:

- Historical perspectives on drug cultures
- The social life of pills and potions
- Drug advertising, media and consumers
- Overuse, underuse and misuse of antibiotics, psychoactives and other drugs
- Digital media diagnosis, prescription and dispensing
- Dosing compliance, transgression and invention
- The turn to psycho-pharmaceuticals for companion animals

HDR students are encouraged to present on their research.

Please send your 300 word abstract to [paula.michaels@monash.edu](mailto:paula.michaels@monash.edu) by 31 August 2018.