

Editorial

In this issue, we delve into the history of medicine, highlighting key episodes and notable figures who have shaped the diverse landscape of global healthcare practices.

The exploration begins with an examination of ancient Greek medicine, focusing on Soranus of Ephesus, renowned for his pioneering contributions to gynecology and obstetrics. His work not only introduced innovative therapeutic techniques such as neonatal massage but also anticipated significant developments in pediatric surgery, profoundly influencing the evolution of modern medical practices. By comparing Western and Eastern medical traditions, we reveal the legacy of influential figures like Vargas, considered the father of medicine in Venezuela. The European education of these pioneers left an indelible mark on healthcare practices in their home countries, underscoring the vitality of global exchanges that characterize medical progress. Additionally, we examine the transformative impact of European medicine on the healthcare system in Macau, demonstrating how intercultural exchanges have fostered innovation and improved the quality of healthcare worldwide.

Acknowledging the complex implications of colonialism in medicine, this investigation digs deeper into historical epidemics and the socio-political effects of infrastructural development on public health. Contextualizing diseases within broader socio-political frameworks offers insights into the enduring impacts of past injustices on contemporary health disparities.

Another area of inquiry in this issue addresses the diagnosis of nostalgia among Piedmont military personnel in the 19th century, highlighting the intersection between cultural perceptions and medical practices of the time and providing illuminating perspectives on the relationship between culture and health.

Addressing contemporary challenges, contributors tackle the issue of cancer-related stigma and the ethical, social, and legal implications of the right to be forgotten for cured cancer patients. They provide guidelines for the implementation of policies aimed at effectively improving the quality of life and privacy protection for cancer survivors.

This issue of MH is not only an exploration of the history of medicine but also a critical reflection on the foundations that guide medical practice today and tomorrow.

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