

Literature on Culture and Body from a HEALTH perspective

Literature in English

2013

Title and references: *Cultural Attitudes of Vietnamese Migrants on Health Issues*, Le, Q. & Le, T., 2013
<http://www.aare.edu.au/05pap/le05645.pdf>

Theme: **Health**

Short paragraph: When people migrate to a new cultural environment, they perceive health issues in light of their original cultural values and norms. The authors investigate the way in which Vietnamese migrants in Australia perceive different kinds of health issues such as treatment, healthcare, role of professional workers and interpersonal relationship between patients, family members and health workers. Many health workers are not aware of the cultural values that migrants bring with them.

2012

Title and references: *What Doctors Are Telling Us Even When They're Not Talking*, Chen, Pauline W, M.D. The New York Times, February 9, 2012
<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/02/09/what-doctors-are-telling-us-even-when-theyre-not-talking/>

Theme: **Health**

Short paragraph: The article explores how doctors' body language can sometimes complicate communication with patients.

Title and references: *The Provision of Culturally Competent Health Care*, Blue, Amy V., © Medical University of South Carolina, 2012

Theme: **Health**

Short paragraph: Culturally-grounded health and illness concepts have an important role in treatment. A culturally competent professional is able to recognize if a patient holds beliefs that differ from the physician's. The author describes cultural competency in the context of healthcare. The author describes different popular and folk healthcare beliefs held by African-Americans and Sea Islands people or Gullah in South Carolina.

2011

Title and references: *Cultural Conceptions of Health*, Stephens, C., SIT Study Abroad, 2011

Theme: **Health**

Short paragraph:

The author presents an analysis of the problems arising from the existence of multiple healthcare systems exemplified by Madagascar, where the health culture combines the many French practises with the traditional Malagasy beliefs, traditions and values. The author describes the different types of traditional medicine: "Tromba" where the healer treats maladies through possession, "Bilo" which deals with social imbalances through possession, "Sidiky" in which the healer uses seeds, and "Fanandroana" in which the healer uses astrology. There are different types of healers, who use herbal medicine in connection with prayer, mirrors, lights and spirits. The author recommends the application of integrated healthcare between those traditional healers who use herbal remedies and massage and the western system.

2010

Title and references:

The Americanization of Mental Illness, Watters, Ethan, In The New York Times Magazine, 2010. Adapted from the book: *Crazy Like Us: The Globalization of the American Psyche*. <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/10/magazine/10psyche-t.html?pagewanted=all>

Theme:

Health / Disability

Short paragraph:

The pivotal argument of this article is that the troubled mind always has been influenced by healers of diverse religious and scientific persuasions, which means that the forms of madness from one place and time often look remarkably different from the forms of madness in another. This is the case until recently. This article argues that an Americanization of mental illness is occurring by homogenizing the way the world goes mad. "For more than a generation now, we in the West have aggressively spread our modern knowledge of mental illness around the world. We have done this in the name of science, believing that our approaches reveal the biological basis of psychic suffering and dispel pre-scientific myths and harmful stigma. There is now good evidence to suggest that in the process of teaching the rest of the world to think like us, we've been exporting our Western "symptom repertoire" as well. That is, we've been changing not only the treatments but also the expression of mental illness in other cultures".

Title and references:

Background on Haiti & Haitian Health Culture, Cook Ross inc. 2010
<http://www.cookross.com/docs/haiti.pdf>

Theme:

Health

Short paragraph:

Different cultures vary in the ways in which health and illness are perceived and how care is given. The author describes the traditional Haitian conceptions of health and healthcare. The traditional concept of health is based on the balance and equilibrium of several factors. Illness is viewed in different stages or degrees of severity, some Haitians believe that illness may be caused by either natural or supernatural factors. Illness is often believed to be a result of wrongdoing. Natural illnesses are typically treated with herbal remedies, if these treatments do not work, western healthcare may be consulted. Voodoo priests may be consulted for

diagnosis and cure of supernatural illness.

Title and references: *Traditional Asian health Beliefs & Healing Practices*, Carteret, M., Asian Cultures 2010
<http://www.dimensionsofculture.com/2010/10/traditional-asian-health-beliefs-healing-practices/>

Theme: **Health**

Short paragraph: People from Asian cultures use health practices and beliefs that are different from Western culture. Health beliefs can have a deep impact on healthcare. *Therefore, it is important to know the basic concepts behind the traditional medicines and healing practices of Asian cultures. The author describes health beliefs and practices of people from South-eastern Asian (Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Burma) as well as East Asian countries (China, Japan, Korea). Links for further study are embedded through the text.

2008

Title and references: *Handbook of Theories of Aging*, Bengton, Vern L., in *From Industrialism to Institutionalism: Theoretical Accounts of Aging*, ed. Gans, Daphna & Putney, Norella & Silverstein, Merrill, 2008

Theme: **Health / Body / Gender / Sexuality**

Short paragraph: The handbook discusses how the various approaches to aging theory can be integrated to create a unified theoretical aging discourse. Chapters include:

- Dynamic Integration Theory: Emotion, Cognition, and Equilibrium in Later Life
- Cognitive Control Theory of Aging and Emotional Well-Being
- Theorizing Feminist Gerontology, Sexuality and Beyond.

Title and references: *The Cultural Context of Aging: Worldwide Perspectives*, Sokolovsky, Jay. 2008
Additional web book chapters available online:
<http://www.usfsp.edu/jsokolov/webbook/>

Theme: **Health / Body**

Short paragraph: This book uses a qualitative, case study approach to look at the rapidly emerging new cultural spaces and social scripts through which mid and late life are being encountered globally, covering China, Japan, Denmark, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, indigenous Amazonia, rural Italy and the ethnic landscape of the U.S.

Title and references: *Religion and culture: Potential undercurrents influencing hand hygiene promotion in healthcare*, Allegranzi, Benedetta & Memish, Ziad A. & Donaldson, Liam & Pittet, Didier, in *World Health Organization Global Patient Safety Challenge Task Force on Religious and Cultural Aspects of Hand Hygiene* (lead, D. Pittet), World Alliance for Patient Safety. 2008

http://ipac.kacst.edu.sa/edoc/2008/172161_1.pdf

Theme:	Health / Body
Short paragraph:	Religious faith and culture can strongly influence hand hygiene behavior in healthcare workers and potentially affect compliance with best practices. This article covers data retrieved on specific indications for hand cleansing according to the 7 main religions worldwide, interpretation of hand gestures, the concept of “visibly dirty” hands, and the use of alcohol-based hand rubs and prohibition of alcohol use by some religions. The impact of religious faith and cultural specificities must be taken into consideration when implementing a multimodal strategy to promote hand hygiene on a global scale.
2007	
Title and references:	<i>Culture, Health and Illness</i> , Helman, Cecil G., 2007
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	This international bestseller addresses the complex interactions between health, illness, and culture, presenting anthropological theory in a highly readable, jargon-free style and integrating it with the practice of health care using real-life examples and case histories.
Title and references:	<i>Dirt: New Geographies of Cleanliness and Contamination</i> , ed. Campkin, Ben & Cox, Rosie, 2007
Theme:	Health / Body / Gender / Sexuality
Short paragraph:	Dirt - and our rituals to eradicate it - are as much a part of our everyday lives as eating, breathing and sleeping. Yet, this very fact means that we seldom stop to question what we mean by dirt. What do our attitudes to dirt and cleanliness tell us about ourselves and the societies we live in? The contributors to this work expose the interests which underlie everyday conceptions of dirt and reveal how our ideas about it are intimately bound up with issues of race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality and the body.
Title and references:	<i>Culture, Health & Sexuality: An International Journal for Research, Intervention and Care</i> , ed. Aggleton, Peter & Coram, Thomas, 2007 http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/tf/13691058.html
Theme:	Health / Sexuality
Short paragraph:	<i>Culture, Health & Sexuality</i> is a leading international environment for the publication of papers in the fields of culture, health and sexuality.
2006	
Title and	<i>Culture and Health: A Critical Perspective Towards Global Health</i> , MacLachlan,

references:	Malcom, 2006
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	Most Western health professionals practice in multicultural societies. The influence of culture on illness, health and rehabilitation is therefore very important. This groundbreaking book shows how social and cultural aspects interact with the purely physical: from assessment and treatment all the way through to effects on rehabilitation.
Title and references:	<u><i>Carving the Body: Female Circumcision in African Women's Memoirs</i></u> , Gordon-Chipembere, Natasha, 2006 in <i>eSharp</i> , issue 6:2. www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_41182_en.pdf
Theme:	Health / Sexuality / Disability
Short paragraph:	The author describes how female circumcision is a worldwide phenomenon, practiced in twentysix African countries, Malaysia, Indonesia, the southern parts of the Arab Peninsula, Pakistan, Russia, Peru, Brazil, Eastern Mexico, Australia, and in immigrant communities in Europe and the United States. Female circumcision exists today because of its socio-cultural significance, where the value of belonging to one's group and being recognized as a meaningful and thoughtful participating member of the community may outweigh the pain and life-long health implications of circumcision.
2005	
Title and references:	<u><i>Applying Theory to Assess Cultural Competency</i></u> , Blue, Amy V. Blue & Thiedke, Carolyn & Chessman, Alexander W. & Kern, Donna H. & Keller, Albert, 2005, Http://www.med-ed-online.org
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	Using a theoretical cultural competency model, the effectiveness of a cultural competency learning assignment was examined to determine: 1) students' cultural competency levels as reflected through the assignment, and 2) the effectiveness of the assignment as a cultural competency learning activity. Third-year family medicine clerkship students completed a required project to research and reflect upon a patient's "cultural belief." Applying a model of cultural competence development, a content analysis of written project reports determined what level of cultural competence was expressed by students' reflections. Results indicated 16% of students were at "no insight", 18% at "minimal emphasis" and 66% at "acceptance." While many students expressed an "acceptance" competence level, not all students expressed the desired level of acceptance about the role of cultural beliefs in medical care. Application of a cultural competency theory to assess learners permits educators to frame performance changes within the context of competency achievement and determine if desired levels of competency have been achieved.

2002

Title and references:	<p><i>The Yoruba cultural construction of health and illness</i>, Jegede, A.S., Nordic Journal of African Studies 11(3): 322-335, 2002 http://www.njas.helsinki.fi/pdf- files/vol11num3/jegede_02.pdf</p>
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	<p>Yoruba is one of the three major ethnic groups in Nigeria. The author describes how the Yoruba culture influences perceptions of health and illness and the prevention and cure of ill-health. The Yoruba mythology plays a significant role in the explanation of health conditions. Good health signifies a positive destiny, illness is considered to be a negative destiny. The Yoruba will try to avoid any violation of taboos so that he can maintain a good relationship with the supernatural beings. Modern healthcare will only be sought after all the other attempts have failed. Some of the traditional practises such as incision and scarification are harmful, especially because of the use of crude instruments. People resort to hospital treatment only in the terminal stages of an illness, when the condition has become unmanageable. People, therefore, refer to hospitals as “Houses of death”.</p>
Title and references:	<p><i>A preliminary study on the concept of health among the Chinese. Research Report.</i> Luo Lu, Counselling Psychology Quarterly, 2002, Vol.15/No.2, p. 179-189</p>
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	<p>Chinese culture stress psychosomatic harmony: health is a state of physical and spiritual harmony, disease stems from disturbance in the Yin-Yang principle. This view of health and disease calls for a holistic understanding of health, stressing a state of homeostasis in nature, societies and human beings. Confucianism translates these conceptions into beliefs, norms and rituals. The author describes different conceptions of health obtained through focus group discussions (246 informants). Chinese conceptions of health can be seen as expressing the supremacy of social harmony over individual preferences.</p>
2001	
Title and references:	<p><i>The Body Silent</i>, Murphy, Robert E., 2001</p>
Theme:	Health / Disability
Short paragraph:	<p>Winner of the Columbia University Lionel Trilling Award. Robert Murphy was in the prime of his career as an anthropologist when he felt the first symptom of a malady that would ultimately take him on an odyssey stranger than any field trip to the Amazon: a tumor of the spinal cord that progressed slowly and irreversibly into quadriplegia. In this gripping account, Murphy explores society's fears, myths, and misunderstandings about disability, and the damage they inflict. He reports how paralysis - like all disabilities - assaults people's identity, social standing, and ties with others, while at the same time making the love of life burn even more fiercely.</p>

Title and references:	<i>Non-western concepts of mental health</i> , Honwana, Alcinda, 2001, http://mhps.net/wp-content/uploads/group-documents/67/1335421956
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	The study appeared in “The Refugee Experience” 1999, revised in 2001, as a training module for humanitarian workers giving care to people affected by war. The author describes how mental health and illness are understood in cultures that do not primarily use western biomedical explanatory paradigms for understanding these illnesses. Her examination of non-western concepts of mental health is based on material from Mozambique and Angola. She describes indigenous notions of health, illness and healing and the role of the spirits of the dead. The significance of the war as a space which differs from normal society is described. The professional challenge of health practitioners and other aid experts is discussed.
Title and references:	<i>The woman in the body: A cultural analysis of reproduction</i> , Martin, Emily, Beacon Press, 2001
Theme:	Health / Gender / Sexuality / Body
Short paragraph:	A bold reappraisal of science and society, <i>The Woman in the Body</i> explores the different ways that women's reproduction is seen in American culture. Contrasting the views of medical science with those of ordinary women from diverse social and economic backgrounds, anthropologist Emily Martin presents unique fieldwork on American culture and uncovers the metaphors of economy and alienation that pervade women's images of themselves and their bodies. A new preface examines some of the latest medical ideas about women's reproductive cycles.
Title and references:	<i>Cultures of Aqing: Self, Citizen, and the Body</i> , Gilleard, Chris & Higgs, Paul, 2001
Theme:	Health / Body
Short paragraph:	This book examines the significance of lifestyle cultures associated with the third age. Each chapter deals with a different aspect of ageing and relates it to the core themes of self and identity, citizenship, and the body.
2000	
Title and references:	<i>Handbook of Multicultural Mental Health</i> , Cuellar, Israel & Paniagua, Freddy, Academic Press, 2000 http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/book/9780121993702
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	This Handbook presents scientific knowledge and shows how to integrate this knowledge with practice-based knowledge in order to deliver adequate mental

health service to patients of diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. The book is also about how to achieve professional cultural competence. Part I presents models for understanding the role of culture with respect to illness, showing how culture influences our perceptions, cognition, belief systems, emotions, values and behaviours. This section also discuss concepts like acculturation and gender. Part II presents different assessment issues and tools, and Part III discusses treatment of specific population groups (e.g. Indians, Asians, Latinos etc.).

1999

Title and references:

Guide to Arab Culture: Health Care Delivery to the Arab American Community, Hammad, A. et.al., ACCESS 1999,
http://www.accesscommunity.org/site/DocServer/health_and_research_cente_21.pdf

Theme:

Health

Short paragraph:

The guide intends to address the lack of cross-cultural comprehension between American health professionals and the Arab American health care consumer in order to enable the professionals to better understand the needs and values of the Arab American patient. The main sectors are :

- Health and healing in the Arab Middle East
- Islamic socio-religious behaviour
- Arab cultural issues in health care.

The guide gives an outlook of Arab culture and society in order to present an Arabic patient perspective, emphasizing individual, regional, religious and ethnic diversity within Arab culture.

Title and references:

An exploration of oral health beliefs and attitudes of Chinese in West Yorkshire: A qualitative investigation,
Kwan, S.Y.L. & Holmes, M.A.M, Health Education Research, 1999, vol.14/ no.4, pp. 453-460 <http://her.oxfordjournals.org/content/14/4/453.full>

Theme:

Health

Short paragraph:

This study investigates oral health beliefs and attitudes among Chinese residents. It also explores the resistance to change of the traditional beliefs following emigration and the effect of acculturation. Traditional Chinese health beliefs adopt a holistic view. Imbalance of body humour results in illness, traditional remedial practices may be needed to restore the balance. Traditional Chinese beliefs consider tooth loss to be a natural fate of ageing and dental problems are not seen as a disease. The elderly Chinese residents of the study believed in traditional remedies and lacked faith in dentists. Teenagers thought that preventive oral care would help to prevent dental disease.

1998

Title and references:

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down, Fadiman, Anne, 1998

Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	<p>Lia Lee was born in 1981 to a family of recent Hmong immigrants, and soon developed symptoms of epilepsy. By 1988 she was living at home but was brain dead after a tragic cycle of misunderstanding, overmedication, and culture clash.</p> <p>This report of the family's attempts to cure Lia through shamanistic intervention and the home sacrifices of pigs and chickens is balanced by the intervention of the medical community that insisted upon the removal of the child from deeply loving parents with disastrous results. This compassionate and understanding account fairly represents the positions of all the parties involved.</p>
1996	
Title and references:	<u><i>Caring More or Less: Individualistic and Collectivist Systems of Family Eldercare</i></u> , Pyke, Karen D. & Bengtson, Vern L. Bengtson, Journal of Marriage and Family, May 1996, vol. 58/no. 2, pp. 379-392
Theme:	Health / Body
Short paragraph:	<p>While previous research has emphasized the commonalities among family caregivers, this study identifies individualistic and collectivist systems of family eldercare and explores their dimensions. The authors have analyzed qualitative interviews with 67 members of 20 three-generation families, categorizing them on an individualistic-collectivist dimension. These categories were assigned on the basis of 3 sets of traits among which there was a high level of congruency: family ethics, levels of contact and interdependence, and caregiving practices and meanings. The data suggest that while individualist families minimize their caregiving and rely on formal supports, collectivists use caregiving to construct family ties, sometimes prompting over-care. The authors discuss factors that contribute to these caregiving strategies and make predictions concerning future responses to the transfer of eldercare from social services to families.</p>
1994	
Title and references:	<u><i>The Aging Experience: Diversity and Commonality Across Cultures</i></u> , Keith, Jennie & Fry, Christine L. & Glascock, Anthony P. & Ikels, Charlotte & Dickerson-Putman & Harpending, Henry C. & Draper, Patricia, 1994
Theme:	Health / Body
Short paragraph:	<p>In an attempt to understand the meaning of ageing and the treatment of the aged in different cultures, seven anthropologists have made studies of 10 communities on four continents - the results of which are presented in this book. The authors use both qualitative and statistical data to examine such issues as: health and well-being, perceptions of the life course, material resources, and functionality of elders.</p>
1984	
Title and references:	<u><i>Illness and Culture in Contemporary Japan: An Anthropological View</i></u> , Ohnuki-Tierney, Emiko, 1984

Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	Healthcare in contemporary Japan - a modern industrial state with high technology, but a distinctly non-Western cultural tradition - operates on several different levels. This book examines the cultural practices and cultural meaning of healthcare in urban Japan, giving attention to everyday hygienic practices and beliefs, as well as presenting a comprehensive picture of formalized medicine, health care aspects of Japanese religions, and biomedicine.
1978	
Title and references:	<i>The History of Sexuality</i> , Foucault, Michel, New York, Pantheon, 1978, vol. 1
Theme:	Health / Body / Sexuality / Gender
Short paragraph:	"Scientia Sexualis", explores the development of the scientific study of sex, the attempt to unearth the "truth" of sex, a phenomenon which Foucault argues is peculiar to the west. He furthermore argues that this scientia sexualis has repeatedly been used for political purposes, being utilised in the name of "public hygiene" to support state racism. Returning to the influence of the Catholic confession, he looks at the relationship between the confessor and the authoritarian figure that they confess to, arguing that as Roman Catholicism was eclipsed in much of Western and Northern Europe following the Reformation, the concept of confession survived and became more widespread, entering into the relationship between parent and child, patient and psychiatrist and student and educator; by the 19th century, he maintains, the "truth" of sexuality was being readily explored both through confession and scientific enquiry. Foucault proceeds to examine how the confession of sexuality then came to be "constituted in scientific terms", arguing that scientists began to trace the cause of all aspects of human psychology and society to sexual factors.
<u>Literature in other languages</u>	
2012	
Title and references:	<i>Indsatser målrettet etniske minoriteters sundhed I danske kommuner. En kortlægning af sundhedsfremme og forebyggelsesindsatser</i> , Eskildsen, Nanna Bjerg & Biswas, Dan & Ahlmark, Nanna, Statens Institut for Folkesundhed, Syddansk Universitet, DK 2012
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	Citizens from ethnic minorities in Denmark are at higher risk for a number of chronic diseases. They are also generally characterized by lower social position, which affects the health behavior. In addition, both structural, cultural and linguistic factors function as informal barriers in the access to health care. Therefore, it requires a special effort and attention to create equity in health.
2011	
Title and references:	<i>Sundhed styrker selvfølelsen. Evaluering af projekt Sundhed for udsatte I Helsingør Kommune</i> , Baatrup, Tine m.fl., mhtconsult 2011

Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	Project "Health for vulnerable" in the municipality of Elsinore in DK has targeted the most disadvantaged citizens, who in many cases lack proper housing and are living under health threatening life conditions. The project has introduced special health plans, where the vulnerable citizens through a holistic approach, combining bodily care and socio-cultural improvements, have enhanced their general health condition.
2010	
Title and references:	<i>Tro, omsorg og interkultur – erfaringer fra social- og sundhedsområdet</i> , Baig, Naveed & Kastrop, Marianne & Rasmussen, Lissi (red.), Hans Reitzels Forlag, DK 2010
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	With the growing number of Danish citizens with non-Western background, there has in the last 10-15 years been an increasing awareness of patients and social clients from ethnic minorities in the healthcare and social care systems. Professionals need to think multi-cultural and multi-religious in their services. They need both knowledge and skills to be able to meet the requirements of new target groups. This anthology contributes through 12 articles with both knowledge and practical instructions for the use of professionals in healthcare and social care.
2009	
Title and references:	<i>State of the art report - etniske minoriteters sundhed i Danmark</i> , Holmberg, Teresa & Ahlmark, Nanna Ahlmark & Curtis, Tine, MIGHEALTHNET. Statens Institut for Folkesundhed. Syddansk Universitet, DK 2009
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	Immigrants are more vulnerable to a number of health problems, while disease patterns vary among ethnic groups. Overall, immigrants judge their own state of health as being worse than ethnic Danes and experience stress more frequent. Several chronic diseases are more frequent, such as diabetes, while cancer is less frequent. Mental health is also worse with more immigrants experiencing chronic anxiety and depression than ethnic Danes. Asylum-seeker children are especially vulnerable in relation to mental health disorders. Regarding health habits, immigrants have a higher intake of sugar and are less physically active than ethnic Danes. Men from some immigrant groups smoke more while immigrant women in general smoke less than ethnic Danes. Most immigrant groups consume less alcohol compared to Danes. Everyone registered under the National Register is entitled to services under the Danish National Health Insurance. Family reunification migrants and quota refugees undergo a quarantine period of six weeks. Asylum seekers and illegal and rejected immigrants, who are not registered under the National Register, are entitled to health services in acute cases. The Red Cross can apply for support to other health services through the Immigration Service. A number of informal barriers, however, influence immigrants' access to and usage of the health system. For example lack of

knowledge about the health system and -entitlements, different perceptions of illness and health, different expectations of the role of the patient and health personnel and communication problems in the meeting with Danish health personnel. Lack of interpreters is often a challenge.

Title and references:

Helbred og integration. Erfaringer og anbefalinger fra 10 kommuner med indsats for flygtninge/indvandrere med sygdomsoplevelser, LG Insight, 2009

Theme:

Health

Short paragraph:

Many ethnic minorities assess themselves to have poor health. But at the same time, it is a widespread experience in the healthcare system that it can be difficult to state a clear diagnosis on the basis of conventional methods. This report provides examples from a number of Danish municipalities on how to work with greater cultural sensitivity in health and disease clarifications.

2008

Title and references:

Etniske minoriteters sundhed – ny viden og metoder, Singhammer, John, Center for Folkesundhed i Region Midtjylland, Konferencerapport, DK 2008

Theme:

Health

Short paragraph:

Knowledge of illness, health and health behavior is essential for professional targeting and qualifying of the health promotion system and the preventive work both on a national, regional and local level. This Danish report summarizes the results of a self-reported survey where ethnic minorities around the country have described how they themselves rate their disease and health from a wide range of parameters.

2007

Title and references:

Flerkulturel håndbog, Sperschneider, Lone A. & Mølgaard, Mette. Munksgaard Danmark, DK 2007

Theme:

Health

Short paragraph:

The multicultural handbook functions as a encyclopaedia, targeting professionals within healthcare, elderly care, social institutions, language schools, educational institutions etc. The goal is to provide knowledge, insight and understanding of the importance of cultural differences in intercultural encounters between professionals and people from ethnic minorities.

2006

Title and references:

Krop, sygdom og seksualitet, Graugaard, Christian & Møhl Bo & Hertoft, Preben (red), Hans Reitzels forlag, DK 2006

Theme:

Health / Sexuality / Body

Short paragraph:

It is a well-known fact that serious disease affects human relationships and sexual-life. Yet, the subject is often tabooed in the encounter between doctor and patient. This book deals with the interaction between disease and sexuality. In focus are serious diseases as cancer, heart and lung diseases, rheumatic diseases, diabetes,

eating disorders, kidney diseases, bowel diseases and skin diseases. In addition, some chapters deal with gynaecology and childbirth, chromosomal disorders and sexual abuse. Finally, the book contains more general chapters on practical sexology, ethnicity and sexual side effects of medication use.

Title and references:	<i>Forsknel og lighed I sundhed og sygdom – udfordringer, eksempler, perspektiver</i> , Vallgård, Signild & Koch, Lene, Munksgaard Danmark, DK 2006
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	Social inequalities in health have in recent years received much attention. The scientific study of social disparities on health and disease creates important new knowledge about the causes and consequences of this inequality. The book deals with a wide range of questions about the differences and equality in health care, including the medical treatment of ethnic minorities.

2004

Title and references:	<i>Smärte eller kultur?</i> , special issue of the Journal: I&M, Invandrare & Minoriteter, Tidsskrift för Forskning, Politik, Kultur och Debatt, 2004, Årgang 31, No 5-6
Theme:	Health
Short paragraph:	Based on Swedish experiences the journal focuses on the intercultural encounter in the healthcare system through a long series of articles. The journal raises a.o. the question of whether “immigrant patients” in general are perceived as particularly challenging, while professionals in healthcare have difficulties in understanding the patient’s own experiences and expressions of pain and illness. Therefore, the question may arise, if the patients are given the proper treatment.

2002

Title and references:	<i>Sundhed og sygelighed hos indvandrere II</i> , Khan, Iqbal A. & Qassim, Mohammad, In Månedsskrift for Praktisk Lægegering, April 2002, 80. Årgang, p. 557-568, Danbib/BOB bestil-id: 1010271576
Theme:	Health / Body
Short paragraph:	The authors focus on health and disease among immigrants. They argue that the immigration process itself may lead to complex psychosocial effects that require special identification and treatment. The experience of culture shock can affect the sense of identity and result in specific psychosomatic symptoms that cannot always be related directly to the physical and mental diseases most prevalent in the majority population.

2001

Title and references:	<i>Emma’s rummelige verden</i> , Deding, Vibeke Krogh & Thusgaard, Ingeborg (red.), Nordjyllands Amts Sundhedsvæsen, DK 2001
Theme:	Health

Short paragraph: A multidisciplinary handbook about inclusiveness in situations, where several cultural backgrounds are to play together in a practical everyday in the healthcare system. The handbook is aimed at healthcare professionals for the use in intercultural encounters with patients, relatives and colleagues.

2000

Title and references: *Fed, federe, fedest*, Maj, Helle In the Journal: Samvirke, November 2000

Theme: **Health**

Short paragraph: The article describes the obesity culture that increasingly characterize U.S. and also spreads more and more to other Western societies. Some scientists believe that by 2030, all Americans will be overweight, if the trend continues. The risk of sequela is extensive and the obesity culture annually costs society and the healthcare system staggering sums.

Undated

Title and references: *Van het kastje naar de muur*, Klik, jaargang 32/nummer 12, p. 21-22

Theme: **Health / Disability**

Short paragraph: This article presents an investigation of parents with disabled children and their supervisors in order to clarify what can be improved in hospitals. Common obstacles are telling the story of their children over and over again, talking next to each other and no adaptation of the hospitals for children with a handicap.

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