

# Interdisciplinarity in the research on healthcare communication

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Key words: interdisciplinarity, healthcare communication, medical discourse, discourse analysis

The main focus of the present poster is the interdisciplinarity in the research at theoretical/conceptual levels in broadly understood healthcare communication. Numerous studies conducted so far, drawing on the theories from the neighbouring disciplines such as the sociology of medicine, social psychology, philosophy of medicine, medical anthropology or medical ethics, have proven to be effective in tapping into the construction of professional and lay identities as well as into the very nature of communication in this particularly sensitive context (Watts 2008, 2010). For example, the basic differentiation into *disease/illness* and *sign/symptom* derived from medical anthropology (Young 1982; Bond and Bond 1986; Lupton 1994) can be seen as a starting point in studying doctor-patient communication; similarly the concepts of *epistemic injustice* derived from philosophy of medicine (Fricker 2007; Carel and Kidd 2014); from the sociology of medicine the theory of levels of medical description (Blois 1984) can shed light on text linguistics of written medical discourse, whereas the approach of *case formulation* (Winters et al. 2007; Havighurst and Downey 2009) and *four Ps* (McHugh and Slavney 1998) from psychiatry aid studying case reporting in this particular area. In the current proposal, first, examples of crucial concepts and theories derived from the aforementioned neighbouring disciplines will be briefly introduced, followed by the discussion of the already conducted (Carel and Gyorffy 2014; Zabielska 2014; Kielkiewicz-Janowiak and Zabielska 2017; Żelazowska-Sobczyk and Zabielska 2019) or potential studies in the area of discourse analysis, where particular research questions can be answered with the help of these concepts and differentiations. Additionally, excerpts of particular data, primarily of selected written medical genres (case reports, hospital discharge documents, instructive materials, but also patients' illness narratives or narratives about their public health experience) will be offered illustrating these potential research problems and the usefulness of the contribution of the disciplines mentioned above. It will be demonstrated that human communicative performance can be understood better with reference to particular conceptualisations of various social and mental phenomena offered by other disciplines.

Word count: 325

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