

# Équipe de recherche

## UNISANTÉ / UNIL Medical Sociology



Joëlle Schwarz  
Team leader (PI)



Flavie Saucy  
PhD student



Eléonore Crunchant  
Collaborator

## IEH2 / UNIGE Medical History



Francesca Arena  
Team leader history



Linda Guerry  
postdoc history

**OTHER PARTNERS:** K. Würth, S. Auer, K. Tzartzas, T. Garibian

### ***Scientific Advisory Board***

Mathieu Nendaz, Yusuke Takeuchi, Samia Hurst, Alexandre Gouveia

# Research topic

Gender bias in clinical practice using a sociohistorical approach

To understand and characterise how gender bias occurs and affects patient management, we will explore more broadly how **gender+** dimensions of patients are integrated into the process of a clinical consultation **today** and in the **past**.

**gender+ :** gender and interactions with age, race, class, sexuality, dis/ability, religion (among others), and sex-related factors

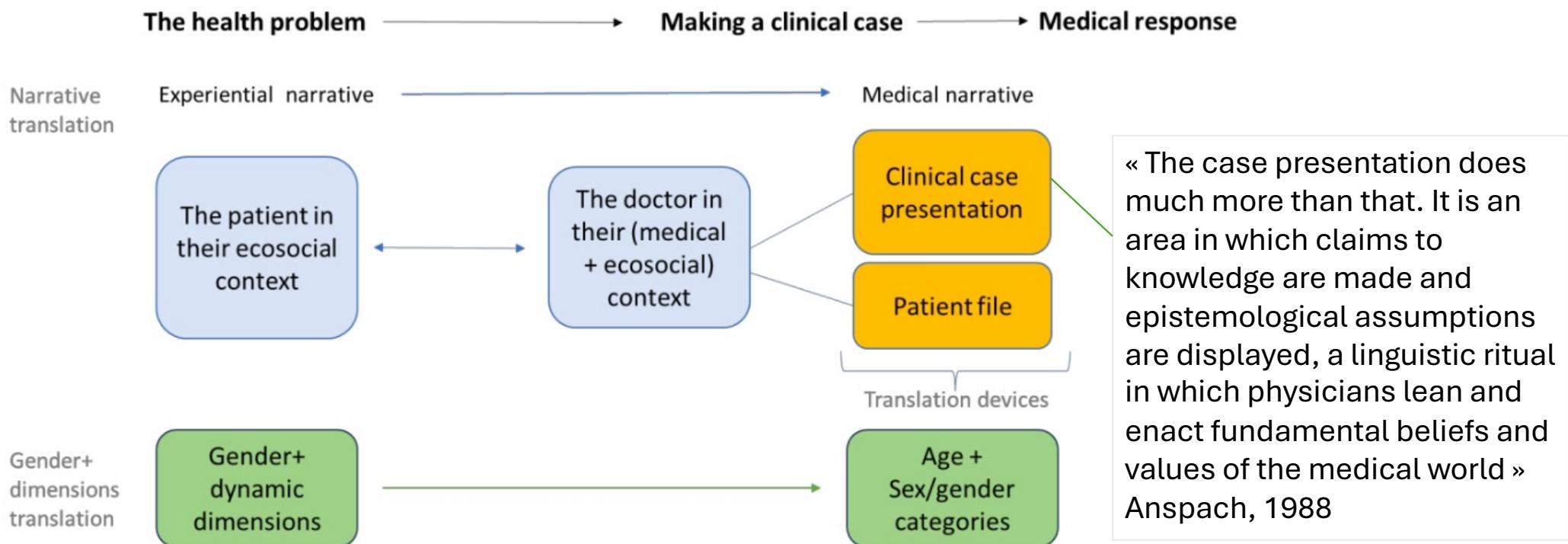
# Three objectives

To characterise how the translation  
of gender+ dimensions has evolved  
in clinical practice  
since the 1950s

To understand how gender+  
dimensions are processed in  
clinical practice today

To describe how the translation  
process is taught and transferred in  
medical education

# Cadre conceptuel



# The process of *making a clinical case*: *en-case-ing*

observed in two medical disciplinary devices that will be the focus of our research

- (A) the clinical case presentation
- (B) the patient record

### Gender and clinical practice: an interdisciplinary exploration of clinical cases

## ***Research site 1: Unisanté's Primary care practices***

The empirical part on present-day practices will use the setting of the primary care outpatient practices of Unisanté - and three of its locations in Lausanne:

- Unisanté's General Practice Polyclinic at 44 Rue du Bugnon
- the Permanence Flon (Flon) at 4 Voie du Chariot
- and the new Blécherette Health Center (CSB) at 18 Rue Elisabeth Jeanne de Ceriat.

# ***Research site 2: Patient records of the Geneva University Hospital (1950-2020)***

This study will be based at the Geneva hospital archives

- We have selected the patient record with the letter B (which corresponds to the files archived): 48 men and 48 women per year (24 men January + 24 women January + 24 men July + 24 women July).
- We will select records from years: 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1984 (for this period there are only even years), 1990, 1994 (for this period there are only even years), 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2020.
- **This will amount to a total of 1'440 files**
- An algorithm will be used with the proposed criteria (extraction of all patient numbers with initial B and who had a service in the month in question, then random selection of 24 numbers by sex, then extraction of the files concerned with a view to their analysis).
- A data collection grid will be developed for the recording of focused data, using REDCap software

**Nota bene: demande préalable à la Commission cantonale d'éthique de la recherche**

# Timetable and milestones

| Task   | Year 1 |    |    |    | Year 2 |    |    |    | Year 3 |    |    |    | Year 4 |    |    |    | Location            | Researchers involved   |
|--|--------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|---------------------|------------------------|
|  | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |                     |                        |
| <b>Setting up research</b>                   |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | LS + GE             | JS, FA                 |
| Recruitment of staff (PhD, medstud, postdoc) | ■      |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | LS + GE             | JS, FA, TG             |
| Autorisation from REC-VD + REC-GE            |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                     |                        |
| <b>Data collection</b>                       |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                     |                        |
| Observations + informal discussions          |        | ■  | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | LS                  | PhD, JS                |
| In-depth interviews with clinicians          |        | ■  | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | LS                  | PhD, JS                |
| Students reflection log                      |        |    |    |    | ■      | ■  | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | LS                  | Med students/residents |
| Students focus group discussions             |        |    |    |    | ■      | ■  | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | LS                  | PhD, JS                |
| Desk review of teaching material             |        | ■  | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | GE                  | Master students + FA   |
| Desk review of teaching material             |        |    | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | LS                  | Master students + JS   |
| Collect of archival patients files           |        |    |    |    | ■      | ■  | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | GE                  | Postdoc, FA, TG, JS    |
| Interviews and desk review of journals       |        |    |    |    |        | ■  | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | GE                  | Postdoc, FA, TG, JS    |
| <b>Analysis</b>                              |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                     |                        |
| Analysis of observations + interviews        |        |    | ■  | ■  | ■      | ■  | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | PhD, JS, KT, KW, SA |                        |
| Analysis of students reflections + FGD       |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | MD, JS, PhD         |                        |
| Analysis of teaching material                |        |    | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | GE                  | Master students + FA   |
| Analysis of teaching material                |        |    |    |    | ■      | ■  | ■  | ■  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | LS                  | Master students + JS   |
| Analysis of patients files                   |        |    |    |    |        | ■  | ■  | ■  | ■      |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                     | Postdoc, FA, TG        |
| Joint analysis and implementation strategy   |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | ■      | ■  | ■  |    |                     |                        |
| Data analysis workshop with all researchers  |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                     | See section 1.5        |
| <b>Scientific Committee meetings</b>         | ◆      | ◆  |    |    | ◆      | ◆  | ◆  | ◆  | ◆      | ◆  | ◆  | ◆  | ◆      | ◆  | ◆  |    |                     | See section 2.3        |
| <b>Dissemination of findings (see 2.4)</b>   |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                     | See section 2.4        |

JS: J. Schwarz, FA: F. Arena, TG: T. Garibian, KT: K. Tzartzas, SA: S. Auer, KW: K. Würth

# Outputs

| Implementation activities/products                      | 2025 |    |    |    | 2026 |    |    |    | 2027 |    |    |    | 2028 |    |    |    |
|---|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|
|   | Q1   | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| <b>General scientific community</b>                     |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Publication of scientific articles (min 5)              |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Poster/oral presentation at conferences                 |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| PhD Thesis  |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| MD Thesis   |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Master Thesis in Medicine (UNIGE + UNIL)                |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Book "Undoing gender bias in clinical practice"         |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| <b>Clinicians</b>                                       |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Quality circles at Unisanté                             |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Jeudi d'Unisanté (continuous education for GPs)         |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| CAS in Sex- and Gender-Specific Medicine                |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Professional press (e.g. <i>Revue Médicale Suisse</i> ) |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| <b>Medical education</b>                                |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Course Medicine, gender, history and sociology (UNIGE)  |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Presentation to Medical Education Units (in GE and LS)  |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Community of Practice on Reflexivity (UNIL)             |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| GEMS platform   |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| <b>Researchers in gender medicine</b>                   |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Conference of the Swiss Gender Health Network           |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Seminar "Masculinities, health, gender" (UNIGE-UNIL)    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| <b>Science-Society</b>                                  |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| L'Eprouvette (LS) / BioScope (GE)                       |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Maison de l'Histoire - serie of conferences (UNIGE)     |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| <b>Scientific Advisory Board meetings</b>               | ♦    |    |    |    | ♦    |    |    |    | ♦    |    |    |    | ♦    |    |    |    |

UNIGE: University of Geneva; UNIL: University of Lausanne; GP: general practitioners; GE: Geneva; LS: Lausanne

## Obj 3: How do we teach/learn the use of gender+ dimensions in clinical practice?

- Mémoire de master en faculté de médecine UNIGE (2025-2027):

Sami Baumann : Gender + *en-case-ing* dans l'enseignement

Submission:  
Nov 14!



**Call for papers: March 20, 2026, University of Geneva (CMU)**

**How to teach gender in medicine and health? Methodological issues and the challenge of interdisciplinarity**