

Ramšak | Łuków | Muzur | Steger [Eds.]

Social diversity and access to healthcare

VERLAG KARL ALBER



Mojca Ramšak, Paweł Łuków, Amir Muzur and
Florian Steger (Eds.)

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ANGEWANDTE ETHIK



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Nikolaus Knoepffler, Peter Kunzmann, Reinhard Merkel,
Ingo Pies, Anne Siegetsleitner und Florian Steger

Wissenschaftlicher Beirat:
Reiner Anselm, Carlos Maria Romeo Casavona,
Klaus Dicke, Matthias Kaufmann, Jürgen Simon,
Wilhelm Vossenkuhl, LeRoy Walters

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Social diversity may affect health outcomes in situations when access to healthcare is limited for certain social groups. Although non-discriminatory access to healthcare services is one of the basic principles of medical ethics and health law, there are still debates regarding the implementation of this concept in practice. Barriers such as inadequate legal entitlements, language, different concepts of health and disease, socio-economic factors or attitudes of healthcare professionals can hinder equity in access to healthcare. The authors of contributions gathered in this volume analyze challenges in access to healthcare for various minority groups and propose possible solutions.

The Editors:

Professor Dr. Mojca Ramšak is researcher at the Institute for the History of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana.

Professor Dr. Paweł Łuków is dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and the Centre for Bioethics and Biolaw at the University of Warsaw.

Professor Dr. Amir Muzur is the head of the Department of Social Sciences and Medical Humanities at the Faculty of Medicine and vice dean for business affairs and research at the Faculty of Health Studies at the University of Rijeka.

Professor Dr. Florian Steger is Chair of the Institute of the History, Philosophy and Ethics of Medicine at Ulm University.

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Preface

This volume is the result of the European Union project »Healthcare as a Public Space: Social Integration and Social Diversity in the Context of Access to Healthcare in Europe«, which is being conducted within the framework of the Joint Research Programme »Public Spaces: Culture and Integration in Europe« funded by the Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA) network and the European Commission.

This project focuses on the concept of diversity that includes aspects of ethnicity, religion, gender, and sexual orientation in the social context of healthcare viewed as a public space. The aim of this project is to generate systematic knowledge about how and to what degree the European norms and guidelines concerning diversity are implemented in national legal regulations in Germany, Slovenia, Croatia, and Poland and how they are realized in clinical practice in these countries. The project concentrates on the ethical, cultural, and normative aspects of integration and exclusion within the healthcare sector.

The project is being realized in cooperation of research institutions at four European universities: the Institute of the History, Philosophy and Ethics of Medicine at Ulm University (Germany), the Institute of History of Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), the Department of Social Sciences and Medical Humanities at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Rijeka (Croatia), and the Center for Bioethics and Biolaw at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Warsaw (Poland).

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