

The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy

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The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy continues to explore the shared themes and concerns of philosophy and the medical sciences. Not since Galen's time has the contact between medicine and philosophy been so widespread; the journal seeks to meet the challenge of this dialogue by providing a forum for philosophers, medical practitioners, educationists, and humanists to examine the problems and controversies stimulated by the engagement of these two disciplines.

The range of issues having philosophical import for medical research and practice is enormous. New developments in medical technology and expertise frequently create scientific and humanistic dilemmas, and medical decision making always involves philosophical presuppositions. Moreover, the concerns of philosophy often converge with those of medicine, as philosophers attempt to understand the nature of knowledge and the human condition. The purpose of the journal is to analyze this multifaceted relationship and to raise its discussion to a responsible and intellectually rigorous level.

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Theoretical Medicine is a premier forum for interdisciplinary studies in the philosophy and methodology of medicine. The aim of the Journal is to clarify patterns of reasoning which occur in both clinical and research medicine. Particular attention is paid to heuristic approaches analyzing the conceptual presupposition of the medical sciences and the practice of health care delivery. Special points of interest are the application to medicine of the advanced methods in the philosophy of medicine, philosophy of science, logic, mathematics, and the study of problems in medical language, knowledge, acquisition, and theory formation in medicine. Of particular interest to guest editors have been the development of a philosophy and methodology of clinical judgments and clinical decision-making, including the role of ethics within such judgments and decision-making; the analysis of the structure and the dynamics of medical hypotheses and theories; the discussion and clarification of fundamental concepts and issues, ranging from the relationship between the humanities and disease categories to ethical issues in the delivery of health care; and the study of the interplay between medicine and other scientific and social institutions.

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