



Northern Network *for*
Medical Humanities
Research



Ethics of Sensitive Visual Material in the Medical Humanities

An ECR Workshop

Wednesday 22nd September 2021
2-4pm BST, Online

The aim of this workshop is to address pressing concerns relating to the uses of visual material in medical humanities, with a particular focus on photography and medical histories. It will address multiple ethical concerns regarding the dissemination of sensitive materials in medical humanities research.

While individual universities require formal ethical approval for many aspects of research, especially when it involves living people, the medical humanities compel further questions and concerns about how we display, share, contextualise, and present details of real lives and sensitive subject matter.

In this workshop, we will identify problems and challenges which can arise when using sensitive visual sources, and seek to develop solutions in order to formulate usable research guidelines. Over the course of the session, we will also see how these issues relate to other sensitive material, which go beyond the visual.

In part, the workshop will address the following questions and concerns:

How might we define ‘sensitive material’?

What should we consider when using images and visual material in our research?

In what circumstances would we not share an image? How might we discuss an image without sharing it?

What context and additional information might we provide when sharing sensitive images pertaining to health and medicine, whether in publications, presentations, online posts, or on social media?

The workshop is facilitated by:

Dr Marie Allitt (University of Oxford/Durham University)

Dr Beatriz Pichel (De Montfort University)

Dr Katherine Rawling (University of Leeds)

Dr Jennifer Wallis (Imperial College London)

Dr Rebecca Wynter (University of Birmingham)

The workshop is open to all ECRs working in medical humanities.
(ECRs: early career researchers not in a permanent post).
The workshop is free to attend, but **places are limited**.

Eligibility and Application:

Any Early Career Researchers working in the field of medical, or health, humanities are welcome. You do not need to have previously or currently be working with visual material to attend.
We especially welcome those working in ethics.

You do not need to be a member of a Northern Network for Medical Humanities Research (NNMHR) institution.

To apply, please send a **100-word expression of interest statement** setting out why you are interested in this topic, indicating your research interests, and identifying some of the ethical concerns associated with your research.

Please send a short biography and the expression of interest to Marie Allitt M.C.Allitt@leeds.ac.uk, by **Friday 10th September, 2021**

This event is organised by Dr Marie Allitt, Postdoctoral Research Assistant for the Northern Network for Medical Humanities Research, with the support of Durham's Institute for Medical Humanities and the University of Leeds, and the Wellcome Trust.