

Assembling the Digital Materiality of Medicines

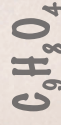
Demandez à
votre Pharmacien

Digital Materiality

Medicines are assemblages. They are comprised of active molecules, delivery systems, work practices and protocols, packaging, instructions, barcodes and safety advice.

The intensified integration of digital services, data resources and algorithms into the practices of medicine is changing their materiality. As they become increasingly digital, their material and social agency increasingly draws on, is constituted through and represented by as well as simultaneously producing digitized data. We call these digital drugs.

Willow
Salix



Methodology

We identify and follow 'tracer' drugs through a series of areas: anti-counterfeiting; hospital prescribing and administration; patient centred care; pharmacovigilance (drug safety) and research data services (including big data).

This produces a series of 'episodes' which map and describe the digital materiality of medicines through the multiple transitions that occur in different places and times.

The Delivering Digital Drugs Project

Delivering Digital Drugs (D3) is a two year project exploring the digital materiality of medicines.

The multi-disciplinary team, based at the London School of Economics and Political Science is led by

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The project is funded by the Research Councils UK as part of the New Economic Odeils in the Digital Economy Programme.

