

# MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES FACING PLATO

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE ROLE OF MEDICAL EXPERTISE  
IN THE PLATONIC CORPUS



**DURHAM, MARCH 21ST-22ND 2025**  
**RITSON ROOM (38 NORTH BAILEY)**  
**AND ON MS TEAMS**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22**

## FRIDAY, MARCH 21

10.00-10.15. Welcome

Giulia Bernardini (Durham University) and Giovanni Trovato (Università di Pisa / Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici di Napoli)

10.15-11.00. Anna Novokhatko (Università di Trento / University of Thessaloniki) "Philosophers, physicians and spectators in Middle Greek comedy"

11.00-11.45. Giulia Bernardini (Durham University) "Eryximachus and the other Comedic Doctors"

12.15-13.00. Matilde Berti (Durham University) "Plato's 'Timaeus' and the Hippocratic 'De Victu': A Medical Approach towards Virtue?"

### Afternoon session

14.30-15.15. Francesco Pelosi (Università di Pisa) "Embryology and music in Plato"

15.15-16.00. Caterina Pellò (University of Geneva) "Alcmaeon according to Plato: Physician and physikos"

16.30-17.15. Jill Gordon (Colby College) "Disease and Sex Difference in Plato's Timaeus"

17.15-18.00. Sonja Tanner (UCCS) "Beautiful Words for Terrible Maladies: Socratic Logotherapy in Plato's 'Charmides'"

10.00-10.45. Philip van der Eijk (HU Berlin) "What does the doctor's "knowledge of the overall nature of bodies" ('Laws' 857d2) consist in?"

10.45-11.30. Sophia Connell (Birbeck, University of London) "Seeds, fruits and eggs: The biomedical basis to agricultural metaphors in Plato"

12.00-12.45. Francesco Ferro (Pontificia Università Lateranense) "Philosophical rhetoric as medicine for the soul: Zeno of Elea as bad pedagogue in the 'Parmenides'"

12.45-13.30. Giovanni Trovato (UniPi / IISF) "'Trees won't teach me anything'. Nonanimal psychology in Plato's Timaeus"

### Afternoon session

14.30-15.15. Jurgen Gatt (University of Malta) "A Hippocratic Look at the Platonic Physiology of Hearing in 'Timaeus'"

15.15-16.00. Hermann Crüwell (University of Oxford) "Archaia physis: on the Platonic adaptation of a Hippocratic concept"

16.30-17.15. Giulia De Cesaris (Università di Torino) "How does the kosmos stay in good health?"

17.15-17.30. Conclusive remarks

Giulia Bernardini (Durham University) and Giovanni Trovato (UniPi / IISF)

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