

國立中正大學哲學系學術演講

【講者】

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【講題】

Disambiguating 'Intervention' in the Formation of Biomedical Knowledge

This talk concerns the relationships between intervention, exploration and causation in biomedical research. I will first propose to treat the formation of biomedical knowledge as a heterogeneous complex. Then, I will show that plural interventions are involved in the formation of biological-medical knowledge by proposing a tentative classification of interventions in the actual practice. My study mainly uses a rapidly growing field, the microbiota-gut-brain axis research field, as the case study. Supporting case studies were also retrieved from the brain science of mood disorders. Based on the empirical study, I will raise two points. First, while a range of interventions can largely be considered as part of exploratory research and not single-hypothesis-driven, philosophers should pay attention to both the intertwinement of the two approaches in the practice and the contributions that exploration makes to causal inference. This view is somehow different from the current separation of philosophical discussions on exploration and hypothesis-driven research. Yet, it extends the use of the interventionist account in a philosophical understanding of knowledge making. Here, I will also respond to the existing account of exploratory research. Second, I acknowledge that the existing account of exploration can be fruitfully used for disambiguating the plural meanings of intervention in the complex of biological-medical knowledge formation.

【時間】

2023/04/26 (三) 15:10~17:00

【地點】

文學院 412 研討室



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