

Le forme dell'autodiagnosi: negoziazioni dell'asimmetria di conoscenze fra medico e paziente

Franca Orletti,

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SUMMARY

In this work I will analyze an aspect which is relatively underrepresented in the theoretical field of conversation analysis in general and of the doctor-patient interaction in particular, be the standpoint discourse analysis, sociolinguistics, or medical sociology: that of the contributions of patients or members of their family in the interaction during the medical examination. In particular, on the basis of the in-depth analysis of one medical examination, I will highlight the contribution of the patient in recognizing the causes of his/her symptoms and the proposals of “lay” diagnosis. Thanks to this, and in line with the results of other linguistic and cultural fields, it will be possible to realize how the patient expresses his/her self-diagnosis proposals in a mitigated way, by means of linguistic, vocal, and interactional strategies. The analysis of even the minor details of the interaction shows the co-built character of the doctor-patient interaction, the willingness of both participants to meet the institutional goal of the interaction.