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THE PHARMACY AS A CULTURAL PHENOMENON

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With our lecture, we wanted to present a new option purveying the history of pharmacy, especially regarding the past of pharmacists and problems relating to this topic. Up to this point, the history of pharmaceuticals was based on factual data, emphasizing on its description. In one of the most important categories, we want to introduce the term "imaginarium". By doing this, we can understand the general visions of the environment and the people, as well as the collection of values and regulations which control the activities of individuals and pharmacist groups. Herewith we can describe a culture as a collection of "imaginaria" - a typical characteristic, of a social group, f. e. the pharmacists at, a certain place and time. The effects of, such a cultural term, are textual results developing and forming the language. The institutions, f. e. the pharmacists, would then allow the textual terms of this culture come into being. We suggest looking at pharmaceuticals in different places, at different times. The descriptions above, have to be understood as cultural events, in other words, as complex as imaginaria. In our concept, the pharmacists would contain a certain type of textual view, which could be deduced from a certain predominant culture in a certain place, at a certain time.