

Lectio



STUDIES IN THE TRANSMISSION OF TEXTS & IDEAS

20

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Pieter d'HOINE

EDITORIAL BOARD

Anthony DUPONT

Michèle GOYENS

Daria KOHLER

Stefan SCHORN

SUBMISSIONS
SHOULD BE SENT TO

lectio@kuleuven.be



© BREPOLS PUBLISHERS

THIS DOCUMENT MAY BE PRINTED FOR PRIVATE USE ONLY.
IT MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLISHER.



Naming Pathology from Antiquity to the Early Modern Period

Edited by
Alessandra FOSCATI
Michèle GOYENS



BREPOLS

© 2026, Brepols Publishers n.v., Turnhout, Belgium.

All rights reserved.
No part of this publication may be reproduced,
stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted,
in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical,
photocopying, recording, or otherwise
without the prior permission of the publisher.

D/2026/0095/238

DOI 10.1484/M.LECTIO-EB.5.150947

ISBN 978-2-503-62011-4

e-ISBN 978-2-503-62012-1

ISSN 2565-8506

e-ISSN 2565-9626

Printed in the EU on acid-free paper.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Alessandra FOSCATI – Michèle GOYENS <i>The Names of Diseases of the Past: a Challenge for Historians</i>	9
Stefania FORTUNA <i>Disease Names in Latin Translations of Galen's Works from Late Antiquity to the Renaissance. The Case of ἀνδραξ, ἔρπηξ, ἐρυσίπελας, and φαγέδαινα</i>	29
Michael McVAUGH <i>Scotomia: A Label in Search of an Illness</i>	57
Cristina SANTOS PINHEIRO <i>The Enlarged Clitoris. Naming and Defining Female Pathology in Rodrigo de Castro's De Uniuersa Mulierum Medicina</i>	87
Ana Isabel MARTÍN FERREIRA – Cristina DE LA ROSA CUBO <i>The Medical Lexicon of Sleep Disorders</i>	113
Victoria RECIO MUÑOZ <i>The Lexicon of an Eating Disorder in Latin Medical Texts. A Case of Renaissance Pica</i>	145
Alessandra FOSCATI <i>In Nostro Vulgare Dicuntur Lo Tac. The Complexity of Naming Diseases in Latin and French Texts</i>	175
Marco PAPASIDERO <i>A Pathology Related to Cold in Early Modern Southern Italy. References to the Male del Freddo in Hagiographic Sources</i>	199
Outi MERISALO <i>Gręce Liquoides, Latine Lupus id est Strangulatio. The Names of the Diseases in the Pseudo-Galenic De Spermate</i>	235

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Charles BURNETT <i>The Arabic-Latin Astrological Tradition of Disease Names and Descriptions</i>	247
INDEX OF AUTHORS AND PHYSICIANS OF THE PAST	261
INDEX OF DISEASE NAMES FROM THE SOURCE TEXTS	267



THE MEDICAL LEXICON OF SLEEP DISORDERS*

Introduction

Sleeping disorders, as they are now called, have little or nothing in common with the ailments whose names we shall analyse in the present paper. Doctors today generally reserve the term ‘sleeping sickness’ for the parasitic disease known as African trypanosomiasis, while for other sleep-related conditions they prefer to speak of ‘sleep disorders’. The field of medicine has gradually identified various types of health problems related to an extremely common pathology that may be present in isolation or in association with other diseases. Modern specialists view sleep disorders as a relatively new branch of medicine, as ‘it is only in the last 40 years that any work has been done on the subject or that advances have been made in diagnosis and treatment’.¹ It is interesting to note that classifications of these disorders have evolved from being symptom-based to being disease-based. The 2005 symptom-based classification included more than 90 sleep disorders in the ICSD-2,² and covered symptoms, the actual disorders themselves and con-

* The authors are members of the GIR *Speculum medicinae* research group. This study was conducted as part of the research project entitled *Amato Lusitano y su tiempo: literatura médica, pacientes y enfermedad en el siglo XVI* [Amatus Lusitanus and his time: medical literature, patients and illness in the sixteenth century] (reference VA222P20), funded by the Regional Government of Castile and Leon and the ERDF.

¹ Gállego Pérez-Larraya et al. 2007, p. 19.

² American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) 2005.