BOOK REVIEW

Dictionnaire de la Pensée Médicale

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The Dictionnaire de la Pensée Médicale, was published by the Presse Universitaire de France (6 Avenue Reille 75014 Paris), in January 2004, under the coordination of Dominique Lecourt, Professor of the University of Paris VII. The scientific board is composed by François Delaporte, Patrice Pinell, and Christiane Sinding, respectively from the University of Picardie-Jules-Vernes and from the research directory of Inserm. This publication is undoubtedly a masterpiece of the history and philosophy of medicine in the beginning of the XXI century.

Written by famous physicians, biologists, surgeons, pediatricians, nutritionists, veterinaries, psychologists, psychiatrists, sociologists, anthropologists, philosophers, historians, jurists, and economists from France and other foreign countries, including Brazil, it will be a work of reference for several years, due to its extent, depth, and diversity in the medical and biomedical areas, not only for its scientific, historical, and philosophical aspects but mainly for the evolution of ideas, ethics, and culture in the “world of health”.

Containing 1270 pages written by nearly 200 authors from the most varied specialties, this dictionary is composed of 295 notes/articles, from three to four pages, and more than 2000 key words. Only three Brazilian researchers participated in this work: Ana Lucia Risson dos Santos, Associate Professor of the University of Picardie-Jules-Vernes, who wrote about Obesity; Fernando Dias de Ávila Pires, from Fiocruz and University of Santa Catarina, who wrote about Ecology; and José Rodrigues Coura, from the Department of Tropical Medicine, Oswaldo Cruz Institute-Fiocruz, who wrote about Epidemiology, focusing its evolution from Hippocrates and Aristotle to our days.

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