

Medicine, healthcare, and the market

21 – 24 August 2024 | Frankfurt Offenbach, Germany

36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

This conference is organized by the [European Society for Philosophy of Medicine and Healthcare](#), the charitable [Ketteler Hospital, Offenbach](#) (Teaching Hospital of Frankfurt University Medical School), and the [Senckenberg Institute of History and Ethics in Medicine](#), Frankfurt University Medical School.

The intersection of medicine, healthcare, and the market brings forth a plethora of philosophical and ethical issues provoking a re-evaluation of prevailing healthcare systems and market practices, urging consideration of alternative models that might better serve the common good while still fostering innovation and efficiency. Abstracts addressing any of the issues mentioned below will be favored, although work on other topics can also be submitted

Regulation and Oversight

- Balancing innovation with public safety and ethical practices
- Role of government and regulatory bodies
- Design of regulatory frameworks promoting ethical practices
- Accountability and enforcement mechanisms

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

- Impact of patent laws on generic drug availability
- Balancing innovation incentives with affordable medication access
- Ethical implications of strict IPR regimes on global health
- Access to essential medicines in low and middle-income countries

Consumerism and Health

- Consumer-driven healthcare and its implications for health outcomes
- Influence of consumer culture on health behaviors
- Ethical concerns in marketing and advertising of medical products
- Patient empowerment versus medical paternalism

Resource Allocation and Priority-Setting

- Ethical considerations in healthcare budget allocations
- Allocation of scarce healthcare resources
- Ethical frameworks for priority-setting in market-based systems
- Distributive justice and healthcare rationing

Commodification of Health

- Ethical implications of healthcare as a traded commodity
- Impact on physician-patient relationship
- Ethos of medical practice
- Moral limits of markets in healthcare

Access and Equity

- Universal healthcare versus market-based healthcare systems
- Equitable access in market-driven healthcare systems
- Disparities in healthcare access and outcomes
- Intersection of socio-economic factors with healthcare access

Profit Motive and Patient Welfare

- Corporate ethics in pharmaceutical and healthcare industries
- Alignment or conflict with promoting patient welfare
- Influence on medical research and clinical decision-making
- Profit-driven healthcare and quality of care

Transparency and Informed Consent

- Ethical advertising and marketing practices in healthcare
- Pricing transparency
- Ensuring informed consent amidst financial incentives
- Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Cost of Innovation

- Economic sustainability of healthcare innovation
- Balancing costs and benefits
- Pricing of life-saving or life-enhancing medications
- Ethical pricing models for pharmaceuticals

Global Health Capitalism

- Global healthcare equity and international collaborations
- Impact of global market forces on healthcare access
- Responsibilities of multinational corporations and wealthy nations
- International trade agreements and healthcare

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Organization

The registration process, the call for abstracts, the development, and the publication of the announcements of the programme as well as the mailings to participants will be taken care of by the ESPMH Secretariat in Dublin, Ireland.

ESPMH Secretary:

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Local Conference Coordinators:

[Ketteler Hospital, Offenbach](#)
[Senckenberg Institute of History and Ethics in Medicine](#), Frankfurt University Medical School

Contact person:

Prof. Stephan Sahm, MD, PhD

Administration:

Medical Clinic I
Ketteler Hospital
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Important dates

1 March 2024

Deadline for submission of abstracts

1st half of March 2024

Selection of abstracts

1st half of April 2024

Draft programme

15 May 2024

Deadline for early bird registration
and payment

Language

The language at the conference will be **English**.

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36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

Charitable Kettler Hospital Offenbach

The **Ketteler Hospital** in Offenbach has a long history. As early as the middle of the 19th century, nuns founded a clinic at the request of Bishop von Ketteler of Mainz. Bishop Ketteler is an outstanding figure of the 19th century known for his social commitment. From small beginnings, a flourishing clinic developed, for which a new building became necessary due to advances in medicine and technology. It was inaugurated in 1958 and given the name Ketteler Hospital. Today, the Ketteler Hospital is a teaching hospital of Frankfurt University, operates two distinguished tumour centres and has a particular specialization in the field of palliative medicine.

Other specialist departments include internal medicine, gynaecology, and obstetrics as well as geriatrics. The Ketteler Hospital is a cooperation partner of the University Centre for Tumor Diseases at the University Hospital in Frankfurt. The appreciation of the clinic among the population is extremely high and is based, among other things, on the mixture of medical competence and empathetic support and care, which is expressed in the motto of the 19th century nun "Love alleviates suffering". As a non-profit clinic, the Ketteler Hospital positions itself within the framework of social debates concerning the spectrum of ethical challenges in medicine.



Medicine, healthcare, and the market

21 – 24 August 2024 | Frankfurt Offenbach, Germany

36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

Senckenberg Institute of History and Ethics in Medicine

The Senckenberg Institute for the History and Ethics of Medicine is part of the University's Department of Medicine and its name, the Senckenberg Institute, commemorates the founder and physician Johann Christian Senckenberg, who set up a generous foundation in 1763.

Just three years after the University had been founded, the Frankfurt internist, medical historian and theoretically interested researcher Richard Koch received a lectureship in the history of medicine, which was extended in 1922 to a lectureship in the history and philosophical foundations of medicine. Richard Koch wrote a ground-breaking work on the concept of diagnosis.

At the end of the 1920s, the institution of the "Seminar for the History of Medicine" was established, with Richard Koch as its director. Due to his Jewish descent, he fled Germany in 1936.

The Institute for the History of Medicine was founded in 1938 as the "Senckenberg Institute for the History of Medicine". The Senckenberg Foundation is a bourgeois foundation from the early 19th century with several enduringly influential institutions in the Rhine-Main region and in Frankfurt. The famous "Senckenberg Museum", for example, is well worth a visit because it has something for all generations, from dinosaur skeletons to exhibitions on biodiversity.

The Institute for history and ethics in medicine has been particularly prominent for publications in the field of history of medicine, while today a relevant part of its academic efforts concerns medical ethics, such as the management and organization of the Clinical Ethics Committee of the University Hospital Frankfurt. Finally, the teaching of history, theory and ethics of medicine is provided by the staff of the Institute.

The history of the University Hospital and the Senckenberg Institute of History and Ethics in Medicine is characterized by a few well-known researchers such as Friedrich Dessauer, Karl Herxheimer and Richard Koch. Researchers such as Professor Udo Benzenhöfer, Head of the Institute, have extensively documented the history of scientists at Goethe University during the period of National Socialism, including the history of persecuted and expelled scientists. Current Director of the Institute is Prof. Michael Sachs.



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36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

Frankfurt University Medical School

The **University of Frankfurt** was founded in 1914 by a community foundation. Today, “Goethe-University” is one of the biggest universities in Germany well known for its scientific reputation, with Nobel laureates in physics and chemistry coming from there. As well in humanities and social sciences, Frankfurt University is proud of its most recent history, with Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer who are distinguished representatives of the Critical Theory. And the world’s most well known and most read contemporary philosopher, Juergen Habermas, has held a professorial chair for many years.

Even before the university was founded, a royal institute for experimental therapy was established in Frankfurt at the end of the 19th century under the direction of Paul Ehrlich, the important physician and bacteriologist and immunologist who discovered the first antibiotic in the history of medicine.

From these beginnings, the Academy of Practical Medicine - which was to become the forerunner of the University's Faculty of Medicine- developed. The medical faculty that grew out of this, benefited from the incorporation of important foundation institutions.

Today Frankfurt University Medical School comprises of a large number of institutes and clinics. More than 50,000 patients are treated as inpatients each year, and around half a million as outpatients. More than 4,000 medical students are trained there. The hospital has around 1,500 inpatient beds.

An array of distinguished hospitals in Frankfurt and Offenbach are cooperating on research and teaching students.

The medical campus is located on the Main River, separate from the main university campus. The university hospital employs a large number of outstanding physicians and researchers who enjoy worldwide recognition in their respective specialties.



Medicine, healthcare, and the market

21 – 24 August 2024 | Frankfurt Offenbach, Germany

36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

Registration

Registration takes place online at the ESPMH homepage (www.espmh.org).

To avail of the early bird registration fee (see below) registration should be completed, and the registration fee should be paid, no later than **15 May 2024**.

Fees are higher after that date. The fee should be paid to the ESPMH Treasurer (details provided on the online registration form).

Abstract booklet, programme and papers

All participants will be provided with a programme as well as an abstract booklet at the registration desk. The programme will also be made available online well in advance.

Full manuscripts of presented papers can be submitted for publication in the ESPMH journal "Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy. A European Journal". Participants are invited to read the instructions for authors on the website of the journal and to submit an appropriately prepared article online for review (see: <http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/applied+ethics/journal/11019>).

Registration fee

A reduced registration fee is applicable for participants who are members of the ESPMH.

The registration fee for PARTICIPANTS covers:

the welcome reception (Wednesday), two lunches, the refreshments during breaks, the conference dinner (Friday) and an abstract booklet.

Paid before 15 May 2024:

ESPMH member: € 450
Non-member: € 500

Paid after 15 May 2024:

ESPMH member: € 520
Non-member: € 570

The registration fee for ACCOMPANYING

PERSONS covers: the welcome reception (Wednesday) and the conference dinner (Friday).

Paid before 15 May 2024: € 100

Paid after 15 May 2024: € 120

Medicine, healthcare, and the market

21 – 24 August 2024 | Frankfurt Offenbach, Germany

36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

Getting to Frankfurt Offenbach

By air

By air via Frankfurt International Airport.

There is a direct connection to the centres of Frankfurt and Offenbach by City-trains (called “S-Bahn”).

City-trains **S8** and **S9** start from the local train station which is in terminal 1.

It takes 15 minutes to get to the centre of Frankfurt and 25 minutes to reach the centre Offenbach.

Tariff:

5-6 Euros for a single trip.

Tickets can be purchased from ticket machines (which accept EC- and credit-cards, banknotes, and coins).

Public transportation

There is a well-developed system of city-trains (called “S-Bahn”) and underground trains (called “U-Bahn”), connecting all areas of interest in **Frankfurt** and **Offenbach**.

Tickets can be purchased from ticket machines (which accept EC- and credit-cards, banknotes, and coins.)

By train

By train via Frankfurt Main Station.

There is a direct connection to the centres of Frankfurt and Offenbach by City-trains (called “S-Bahn”).

To Frankfurt: You can take any train going into the direction of the city-centre.

To Offenbach: City-trains **S1**, **S2**, **S8**, and **S9** go to Offenbach city centre within 15 minutes.

Tickets can be purchased from ticket machines (which accept EC- and credit-cards, banknotes, and coins),

Tarif:

about 5 Euros for a single trip

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21 – 24 August 2024 | Frankfurt Offenbach, Germany

36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

While in Frankfurt Offenbach

Whether your hotel is in Frankfurt or Offenbach you can easily get to the congress venue as well as to places of interest because Frankfurt and Offenbach are real twins (see below). All tourists' features are connected via Underground and City-Train ("S-Bahn"). The Rhine-Main metropolitan area is one of the liveliest and most international regions of Germany.

In Frankfurt tourists are often fascinated by the array of skyscrapers. Among these, the breathtaking architecture of the European Central Bank stands out, easily accessible via the S-Bahn, a mere 10-minute ride from the congress venue. A guided tour will be offered; however, an extra fee is required, and personal application and identity verification (identity card) are necessary for safety reasons (details will be provided at the start of the conference.)

A must-visit in Frankfurt is the famous Museum Embankment, located 6.5 km away and easily accessible by underground, a 25-minute journey. Situated along the river Main, this area features the renowned Museum of Fine Arts (The Stadel), the Cinema Museum, a distinguished Sculpture Museum, the Jewish Museum, the Communication Museum, and several others."

The recently reconstructed old town, a highlight in the centre of Frankfurt city (6.5km away, a 20-minute ride on the S-Bahn). It features the Frankfurt Cathedral, renowned as the site of emperors' coronations during the Middle Ages

And last but not least, visitors will find an extensive variety of restaurants offering cuisine from all over the world.



In Offenbach: enjoy the great number of pubs. A must is the "Wilhelmsplatz" which is within walking distance from the congress premises. (1,2 km). Three days a week you will feel like standing on a nice piazza in the South of Europe. The place is filled with all kinds of colourful stalls from greengrocers and vegetable traders, and it is surrounded by many pubs and cafes.

In the immediate vicinity of the congress venue (25 meters away), the German Leather Museum is located. The director will offer us a nice and informative museum tour. Of course, visitors are welcome to explore it during its opening hours.

Offenbach is home to the world's leading museum of penmanship and letter printing, named after its founder, Klingspor, and is located just 1.3 km from the conference location.

Medicine, healthcare, and the market

21 – 24 August 2024 | Frankfurt Offenbach, Germany

36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

Currency

The official currency of Germany is the Euro.

Visa

Please contact your local consulate for details.

Shopping

In the Frankfurt city centre, you will find shops that cater to all desires, featuring products from around the world, ranging from exquisite shops in the 'Goethe-Strasse', known for expensive first-class jewellery, to more affordable, low-budget stores.



Social programme

The annual three-day **museum embankment festival** is set to take place along the river Main in Frankfurt from 23- 25 of August.

About one million visitors are expected. The festival will feature music, artists, food stands, and the captivating aromas of diverse cultures, attracting a great many people.

On Saturday night, visitors can enjoy an impressive fire work display.

Guided tours:

- **European Central Bank Building:**

The venue features breath-taking architecture (for safety, there will be security checks; attendees must register in advance and prove their identity with a passport or identity card. More details will be provided at the start of the conference).

- **Leather Museum:**

extra fee (details will be provided at the start of the conference)

- **Frankfurt Old Town:**

extra fee (details will be provided at the start of the conference)

Medicine, healthcare, and the market

21 – 24 August 2024 | Frankfurt Offenbach, Germany

36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

Conference venue and accommodation

Conference venue

The conference will be held on the premises of the Offenbach Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Frankfurter Strasse 90 in the centre of Offenbach.

Getting to the venue

From Frankfurt: Take City-trains **S1, S2, S8, or S9** to stop “Ledermuseum”. From there it is a 350m walk to the congress venue.

Hotels

ACHAT Hotel Offenbach Plaza

(distance to ESPMH congress venue 2,3 km)

Ernst-Griesheimer-Platz 7

63071 Offenbach

Phone: +4969/80905-0

Offenbach-plaza@achat-hotels.com

<https://achat-hotels.com/>

Boardinghouse Offenbach

(distance to ESPMH congress venue 1 km)

Berliner Straße 48

63065 Offenbach

Phone: +49163/7116720

info@boardinghouse-offenbach.de

<https://boardinghouse-offenbach.de/apartments-offenbach-2/>

Accommodation

Conference participants are responsible for their own accommodation.

Some hotels, as listed below, are holding reserved room blocks for the conference and offer **reduced prices for early bookings**. Others request that reservations be made using a **specific code word**. The dates up to which reduced prices are available, along with any provided codes, are mentioned below, as well as the respective distances to the congress venue.

(As the Rhine-Main-Metropolitan area is one of the busiest and most vibrant regions in Germany, you will find a large number of hotels not mentioned here.)

Medicine, healthcare, and the market

21 – 24 August 2024 | Frankfurt Offenbach, Germany

36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

Hotel Concorde GmbH

(distance to ESPMH congress venue: 7,3 km)

Karlstrasse 9, 60329 Frankfurt

Phone: +4969/242422-0

Reservation via mail: info@hotelconcorde.de

Code „36th ESPMH Conference“

(available until 21.07.2024)

<https://www.hotelconcorde.de/>

Hotel Graf Offenbach

(distance to ESPMH congress venue 950 m)

Ziegelstrasse 6

63065 Offenbach

Phone: +4969/800851-0

info@hotel-graf.de

<https://www.hotel-graf.de/>

Leonardo Hotel Offenbach

(distance to ESPMH congress venue 1,9 km)

Kaiserleistrasse 39

63067 Offenbach

Phone: +4969/6802-666

Reservation via

mail: [reservations.frankfurt@leonardo-](mailto:reservations.frankfurt@leonardo-hotels.com)

[hotels.com](mailto:reservations.frankfurt@leonardo-hotels.com). Code: 95003

(available until 30.06.2024)

<https://www.leonardo-hotels.com/>

Hotel Löwen

(distance to ESPMH congress venue 160 m)

Ludwigstrasse 91-95

63067 Offenbach

Phone: +4969/812650

info@loewenhoteloffenbach.de

(available until 15.08.2024)

<https://www.loewenhoteloffenbach.de/>

Hotel Offenbacher Hof

(distance to ESPMH congress venue 300 m)

Ludwigstrasse 33-37

63067 Offenbach

Phone: +4969/80088968

Reservation via mail

info@hoteloffenbacherhof.de

Code: „Health Care“

(available until 30.06.2024)

<https://www.hoteloffenbacherhof.de/de/>

Hotel Paulaner am Dom

(distance to ESPMH congress venue 5,5 km)

Domplatz 6

60311 Frankfurt

Phone: +4969/1381030

hotel@paulaner-am-dom.de

(available until 20.05.2024)

<https://paulaner-am-dom.de/>

Sheraton Offenbach Hotel

(distance to ESPMH congress venue 850 m)

Berliner Straße 111

63065 Offenbach

Phone: +4969/82999757

events@sheratonoffenbach.com

(available until 28.07.2024)

<https://www.marriott.com/de/hotels/fraio-sheraton-offenbach-hotel/overview/>

Medicine, healthcare, and the market

21 – 24 August 2024 | Frankfurt Offenbach, Germany

36th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

About the twin cities Frankfurt and Offenbach

Frankfurt and Offenbach are twin cities in the heart of Germany, interconnected along the river Main. Frankfurt is a major financial metropolis, while Offenbach has become a creative hub with up-and-coming activities in the service sector.

Life in both cities is very international. Frankfurt hosts to employees from major banks worldwide, as well as the European Central Bank. Offenbach also boasts a diverse population, with people from 160 countries around the world living there.

The two cities are in very close proximity, so much so that Offenbach's Ketteler Hospital, a teaching hospital of the University of Frankfurt, is closer to the university's medical faculty campus than some other teaching hospitals located within Frankfurt itself.

Offenbach and Frankfurt are cultural centres of Germany. This is particularly evident in Frankfurt's special Museumsufer, the "Alte Oper" concert hall, and numerous other cultural institutions.

In Offenbach, the German Leather-Museum (Deutsches Ledermuseum) and the Klingspor Museum (renowned for letterpress printing) have gained international reputation.



The city of Offenbach is home to the distinguished Hochschule für Gestaltung (HfG), a highly respected University for Art and Design. Additionally, there are large and active Jewish communities in both Offenbach and Frankfurt.

During the 18th century, Offenbach served as a local recreation area for citizens of Frankfurt. Even today, many Frankfurt residents enjoy the pubs and restaurants in Offenbach, especially around Wilhelmsplatz. This marketplace hosts an open-air fresh food market, known as the "Wochenmarkt", three times a week, come rain or shine. With its atmosphere reminiscent of a southern European piazza, the Wochenmarkt is a must-visit for any traveller.

As Frankfurt and Offenbach have grown together over the centuries, they have become real twins.