

Bibliotek for Læger

A journal devoted to medical history, ethics, philosophy and clinical theory, founded in 1809

Steen Kristensen:

Halban-Narjani's clitoris cathesis.

Bibl Læger 2006;198:304–19.

French princess Marie Bonaparte (1882–1962) was married to Prince George of Greece and Denmark, and she was one of Sigmund Freud's most faithful followers. Throughout her life, she was obsessed by her inability to obtain vaginal orgasm. She attempted to cure herself by taking a string of lovers, through psychoanalysis and by undergoing plastic surgery on her clitoris. All to no avail. An analysis of her writings suggests that her sexual problems originated from undiagnosed childhood sexual abuse.

Christian Graugaard:

In search of a polymorphous normality. Sigmund Freud in the postmodern era.

Bibl Læger 2006;198:320–31.

Prompted by his 150th birthday, the article deals with the legacy of Sigmund Freud and discusses the possible relevance of his theories in contemporary society and science. It's argued that the conceptual framework of psychoanalysis is amenable to "remixing", and especially the Freudian notion of "polymorphous perversity" is suggested as a constructive perspective on postmodern intimacy and sexual relations.

Søren Hess & Poul Flemming Høiland-Carlsen:

From uranium salts to positron emission tomography. Extracts of the history of nuclear medicine.

Bibl Læger 2006;198:332–75.

Nuclear medicine is one of the smaller medical specialties, and not often encountered in articles on the history of medicine. Fragments of this young specialty's history are scattered in the international literature and only a few monographies exist. The development in Denmark has been addressed previously in this journal, but we find that the international events leading to and coexisting with it hold a common interest to Danish readers as well. We have thus sought to present selected events, which in our opinion were either crucial or curious, in an attempt to provide the reader with a broad overview of the history of nuclear medicine. A comparative analysis of the scarce literature has not been the intention.

Nuclear medicine arose from discoveries made in early nuclear physics and nuclear chemistry, and the article sets off by addressing some well-known scientists and Nobel laureates who played various parts in the events leading to the development and implementation of radioactive tracer techniques and subsequent events. We present what we perceive to be key elements of the historical developments in central fields of early and contemporary nuclear medicine methods and equipment and summarize their current status. In conclusion, we present some of the present and future perspectives of nuclear medicine, molecular imaging, and positron emission techniques.