



Medical Technologies and the Life World: The social construction of normality (Critical Studies in Health and Society)

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Although the use of new health technologies in healthcare and medicine is generally seen as beneficial, there has been little analysis of the impact of such technologies on people's lives and understandings of health and illness. This ground-breaking book explores how new technologies not only provide hope for cure and well-being, but also introduce new ethical dilemmas and raise questions about the 'natural' body.

Focusing on the ways new health technologies intervene into our lives and affect our ideas about normalcy, the body and identity, *Medical Technologies and the Life World* explores:

- how new health technologies are understood by lay people and patients
- how the outcomes of these technologies are communicated in various clinical settings
- how these technologies can alter our notions of health and illness and create 'new illness'.

Written by authors with differing backgrounds in phenomenology, social psychology, social anthropology, communication studies and the nursing sciences, this sensational text is essential reading for students and academics of medical sociology, health and allied studies, and anyone with an interest in new health technologies.

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