



EAA Barcelona 2018 – 5-8 September 2018

Call for Papers and Posters

Deadline: 15 February 2018

Re-thinking medieval and early modern pestilences from a biosocial perspective: advanced methods and renewed concepts in archaeological sciences

While contagious diseases have affected the human species since its origins, great medieval epidemics (e.g. plague, leprosy, tuberculosis) have sparked particular interest for decades. In recent years, archaeology has played an increasing role in the scientific study of medieval pestilences, notably by providing reliable data on both the paleobiology of epidemic victims and their burial treatment. Despite the various breakthroughs reached by interdisciplinary research, the study of past epidemics still needs to get improved, particularly through an integrated analysis of biological and social dimensions of these diseases, which are closely interrelated. We invite contributions regarding both recent methodological advances in the retrospective diagnosis of infectious diseases and the output of archaeological sciences on social and cultural factors acting in human populations' adaptability to these diseases.

The session shall address various questions, among which:

- What are the new lines of research and future perspectives in paleopathological and palaeomicrobiological study of these diseases?
- What information paleobiological data derived from skeletal assemblages can provide on the epidemiological characteristics of the diseases?
- What was the endemicity of diseases in various places, how did they evolve over time, and how did various diseases competed each other?
- How funerary archaeology and textual sources contributes to reappraise the history of these diseases (e.g. attitudes towards the victims in terms of their integration and/or exclusion, depending on the time period and cultural framework)?
- Which methodological implementation would be desirable in the future to allow retrospective diagnosis of still poorly-known diseases (e.g. ergotism)?

Keywords: Archaeology, Paleomicrobiology, Paleopathology, Medieval, Epidemics

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REFLECTING
FUTURES

Session details:

- Session theme: Theories and methods in archaeological sciences
- Session ID: #413
- Session type: Session, made up of a combination of papers, max. 15 minutes each

Session organizers:

- Dr. Dominique Castex, CNRS, UMR 5199 – PACEA, Université de Bordeaux, Pessac, France, dominique.castex@u-bordeaux.fr
- Dr. Mark Guillon, Inrap, UMR 5199 – PACEA, Université de Bordeaux, Pessac, France, mark.guillon@inrap.fr
- Maria Spyrou, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena, Germany, spyrou@shh.mpg.de
- Marcel Keller, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena, Germany, keller@shh.mpg.de
- Dr. Sacha Kacki, Department of Archaeology, Durham University, United Kingdom, sacha.s.kacki@durham.ac.uk

Abstract submission deadline:

15 February 2018

If you are interested to submit a Paper or Poster proposal, please use the conference website at

<https://www.e-a-a.org/EAA2018/>

Further information, including registration details, general and practical information, etc. can be found on the conference website