

The Colonial Life of Pharmaceuticals

Situated at the crossroads between the history of colonialism, of modern Southeast Asia, and of medical pluralism, this history of medicine and health traces the life of pharmaceuticals in Vietnam under French rule. Laurence Monnais examines the globalization of the pharmaceutical industry, looking at both circulation and consumption, considering access to drugs and the existence of multiple therapeutic options in a colonial context. She argues that colonialism was crucial to the worldwide diffusion of modern medicines and speaks to contemporary concerns regarding overreliance on pharmaceuticals, drug toxicity, self-medication, and the accessibility of effective medicines. Retracing the steps by which pharmaceuticals were produced and distributed, readers meet the many players in the process – from colonial doctors to private pharmacists, from consumers to various drug traders and healers. Yet this is not primarily a history of medicines as objects of colonial science, but rather a history of medicines as tools of social change.

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The Colonial Life of Pharmaceuticals

Medicines and Modernity in Vietnam

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Since then, it has given birth to several articles, in both French and English, and a book, *Médicaments coloniaux. L'expérience vietnamienne, 1905–1940* (Paris: Les Indes savantes) in 2014. It ends now, with this second book. Yet this does not mean that my interest in both the history and anthropology of pharmaceuticals and Vietnamese health practices is going to die.

The Colonial Life of Pharmaceuticals is not merely a translation of *Médicaments coloniaux*. In fact, it is a different book that has grown out of new thoughts, comments, and criticisms that I have received over the past few years; it is a much more mature (and lighter) work.

I do not want to reiterate the thanks I put on paper in 2014. This being said, Noémi Tousignant deserves that I mention her a second time as she has served, once again, as a trustworthy, hardworking, insightful translator, who is never afraid of challenging my ideas and my (very French) pompous style.

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Abbreviations

Aff po	Fonds des affaires politiques
AFOM	Agence de la France d'outre-mer
AHMC	<i>Annales d'hygiène et de médecine coloniale</i>
AIPI	<i>Archives des Instituts Pasteur d'Indochine</i>
AMG	Assistance médicale gratuite
AMI	Assistance médicale indigène
Amiraux	Fonds des Amiraux
AMPC	<i>Annales de médecine et de pharmacie coloniales</i>
ANOM	Archives nationales d'outre-mer
APPIC	Association professionnelle des pharmaciens de l'Indochine
ARV	antiretroviral drug
BAYB	<i>Bao an y báo</i>
BDP	<i>Báo đông pháp</i>
BSMI	<i>Bulletin de la Société médico-chirurgicale de l'Indochine</i>
BSPE	<i>Bulletin de la Société de pathologie exotique</i>
CG	Fonds de la Commission Guernut
DC	Fonds de la Direction du contrôle
DLS	Fonds de la Direction locale de la santé
EFEO	École française d'Extrême-Orient
FEATM	Far Eastern Association for Tropical Medicine
Goucoch	Fonds du Gouvernement de la Cochinchine
Gougal	Fonds du Gouvernement général
Gougal SE	Fonds du Gouvernement général, service économique
IDEO	Imprimerie d'Extrême-Orient
IGHSP	Inspection générale de l'hygiène et de la santé publique
Indo AF	Indochine ancien fonds
Indo NF	Indochine nouveau fonds
PNTV	<i>Phụ nữ tân van</i>
OTC	over-the-counter
QE	quinine d'état
RMFEO	<i>Revue médicale française d'Extrême-Orient</i>

x List of Abbreviations

RSA	Fonds de la Résidence supérieure d'Annam
RST	Fonds de la Résidence supérieure du Tonkin
RST NF	Résidence supérieure du Tonkin nouveau fonds
SDN	Société des nations
STI	sexually-transmitted infection
TC	Troupes coloniales
TKVSCN	<i>Trung Kỳ vệ sinh chỉ nam</i>
VNA	Vietnam National Archives
VSB	<i>Vệ sinh báo</i>
WHO	World Health Organization