

Cambridge Elements

Elements in Global China
edited by
Ching Kwan Lee
University of California–Los Angeles

CHINA IN GLOBAL HEALTH

Past and Present

Mary Augusta Brazelton
University of Cambridge



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-009-04566-7 — China in Global Health
Mary Augusta Brazelton
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)



Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009045667

DOI: 10.1017/9781009042666

© Mary Augusta Brazelton 2023

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions
of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take
place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

First published 2023

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-009-04566-7 Paperback

ISSN 2632-7341 (online)

ISSN 2632-7333 (print)

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence
or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this
publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will
remain, accurate or appropriate.

China in Global Health

Past and Present

Elements in Global China

DOI: 10.1017/9781009042666
First published online: January 2023

Mary Augusta Brazelton
University of Cambridge

Author for correspondence: Mary Augusta Brazelton, mab94@cam.ac.uk

Abstract: This Element argues that the territories and peoples associated with China have played vital roles in the emergence of modern international health. In the early twentieth century, repeated epidemic outbreaks in China justified interventions by transnational organisations; these projects shaped strategies for international health. China has also served as a space of creativity and reinvention, in which administrators developed new models of health care during decades of war and revolution, even as traditional practitioners presented alternatives to Western biomedicine. The 1949 establishment of the People's Republic of China introduced a new era of socialist internationalism, as well as new initiatives to establish connections across the non-aligned world using medical diplomacy. After 1978, the post-socialist transition gave rise to new configurations of health governance. The rich and varied history of Chinese involvement in global health offers a means to make sense of present-day crises.

Keywords: China, global health, international health, history of medicine, public health

© Mary Augusta Brazelton 2023

ISBNs: 9781009045667 (PB), 9781009042666 (OC)
ISSNs: 2632-7341 (online), 2632-7333 (print)

Contents

1 Introduction: China and the Making of Global Health	1
2 The World's Laboratory	18
3 Medical Circulations in the Cold War	33
4 Post-Socialist Pandemics in Global China	49
References	63