Final Report

WTCCEH grant to Susan Kelly, Annemarie Jutel and Thierry Jutel

Title: Workshop on Certainty, Uncertainty and Diagnosis

Date: 26 October 2018

Venue: WTCCEH Board Room

Attendees:

1. Susan Kelly (medical sociologist)
2. Annemarie Jutel (nurse and emergency responder, clinician, critical diagnosis scholar)
3. Thierry Jutel (cultural representation; critical theory)
4. Thomas Lister (sociologist)
5. Jennie Hayes (psychologist)
6. Ginny Russell (psychologist, critical diagnosis scholar)
7. Adam Hedgecoe (sociologist of science)
8. Mike Kelly (public health; sociologist)
9. Richard Byng (GP, clinician)
10. Jo Angouri (standing in for Meredith Marra, NZ)
11. Nina Hallowell (medical sociologist)
12. Natalie Armstrong (medical sociologist, co-editor of special journal issue on Uncertainty in medicine)
13. Lara Choksey (philosopher)
14. Josephine Ensign (author and medical sociologist)
15. John Dupre (philosopher)
16. Alexis Taylor (patient, 2 others were invited but couldn’t come on the day)
17. Nicola Mackintosh (medical sociologist, co-editor of special journal issue on Uncertainty in medicine)

Others were invited but could not come on the day.

Agenda:

There were brief presentations on Uncertainty from Thierry Jutel (representing critical film studies), Adam Hedgecoe (representing medical sociology), Mike Kelly (representing public health) and Jo Angouri (representing linguistics); with responses from a clinician (Richard Byng) and a patient (Alexis Taylor). This was followed by 2 break-out sessions and a larger group discussion.

An objective of the day was to gauge interest in a small grant submission on the topic to the WT (https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding/small-grants-humanities-and-social-science). It was determined that Susan Kelly would be PI, with the Jutels, Meredith Marra and Richard Byng as Co-Is. The grant would take the form of a systematic review (SR) (hiring Thomas Lister or other postdoc as available); and a 2 day workshop to be held in London probably at the WT centre facility, this would consist of a
cultural representation session in the morning of day one to which all are invited, and a sociological session in the afternoon, to which all are invited and at which the SR results would be presented. Models will be explored. Dinner at which informal discussions will take place will be held in the evening. The second half day will include a ‘data fest’ at which data on the resolution of uncertainty will be presented (that of Jennie Hayes from her PhD) to allow different disciplines to explore their tools, and models regarding uncertainty will be explored. A range of people will be invited to the workshops including more patients, critical theory scholars, socio-linguists, and philosophers.

Many people from the initial workshop expressed interest in continuing to be involved. An explicit objective of the day and of the small grant application is to include patient voices regarding experiences of uncertainty and its resolution. In medicine, as well as being explicitly multidisciplinary and developing something tangible that Dr Byng could implement in practice. Also, an explicit objective is the submission of a larger WT collaborator application following the small grant.