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Titolo Healing Elements: Efficacy and the Social Ecologies of Tibetan Medicine

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Continental Population Groups

Anthropology, Cultural Medicine, Traditional Population Characteristics

Philosophy

Population Groups

Therapeutics
Health Care
Humanities
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Persons

Social Sciences Holistic Health

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Nota di contenuto

Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Notes on the Use of Non-English Terms -- List of Acronyms -- Introduction -- 1. Portrait of a Himalayan Healer -- 2. The Pulse of an Institution -- 3. Lineage and Legitimacy -- 4. Therapeutic Encounters -- 5. Good Manufacturing Practices -- 6. Cultivating the Wilds -- 7. The Biography of a Medicine -- Conclusion

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Sommario/riassunto

Tibetan medicine has come to represent multiple and sometimes conflicting agendas. On the one hand it must retain a sense of cultural authenticity and a connection to Tibetan Buddhism; on the other it must prove efficacious and safe according to biomedical standards. Recently, Tibetan medicine has found a place within the multibillion-dollar market for complementary, traditional, and herbal medicines as people around the world seek alternative paths to wellness. Healing Elements explores how Tibetan medicine circulates through diverse settings in Nepal, China, and beyond as commercial goods and gifts, and as target therapies and panacea for biophysical and psychosocial ills. Through an exploration of efficacy - what does it mean to say Tibetan medicine "works"? - this book illustrates a bio-politics of traditional medicine and the meaningful, if contested, translations of science and healing that occur across distinct social ecologies.