

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910476856003321
Titolo	The walk without limbs : searching for Indigenous health knowledge in a rural context in South Africa / / Gebula Mji, editor
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Durbanville, Cape Town, South Africa : , : AOSIS, , [2019] ©2019
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xxix, 429 pages) : illustrations, portraits
Disciplina	398.353
Soggetti	Traditional medicine - South Africa
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents -- Abbreviations, Boxes, Figures and Tables Appearing in the Text -- List of Abbreviations xixList of Boxes -- List of Figures -- List of Tables -- Notes on Contributors -- Declaration -- Introduction -- Section 1: Presentation of critical research findings that emerged from the PhD study: The walk without limbs -- Chapter 1: Evolution of the book - Recognising the absence of limbs -- Chapter 2: An epistemology on health and illness according to biomedical and indigenous health knowledge perspectives -- Chapter 3: Women as healers and indigenous knowledge systems and its holders: An intertwined epistemological and ontological struggle for recognition -- Chapter 4: Research methodology that drove the study -- Chapter 5: Critical study outcomes and the proposed primary healthcare model -- Chapter 6: Opting for a veil of secrecy - The silencing of indigenous health service seekers by healthcare providers in Bomvanaland -- Chapter 7: The heavy price paid by the Bomvana in questioning the Western modernity script of civilisation -- Chapter 8: Presenting the elite older Xhosa women healers of Bomvanaland in the Eastern Cape province -- Section 2: Translation and application of PhD critical research findings on the research site: The backward and forward movement - Trying to find our limbs -- Chapter 9: Steps taken to translate critical research findings -- Chapter 10: Bringing in a conversation in health and education: A missing link? -- Chapter 11: Indigenous spirituality within formal health care practice -- Chapter 12:

Savings, investments and credit groups: A holistic approach to community upliftment -- Chapter 13: Community engagement in KwaXanase: Moving from fear to pride and confidence -- References -- Index.

---

## Sommario/riassunto

In a country as diverse as South Africa, sickness and health often mean different things to different people so much so that the different health definitions and health belief models in the country seem to have a profound influence on the health-seeking behaviour of the people who are part of our vibrant, multicultural society. This book is concerned with the integration of indigenous health knowledge (IHK) into the current Western--orientated Primary Health Care (PHC) model. The first section of the book highlights the challenges facing the training of health professionals using a curriculum that is not drawing its knowledge base from the indigenous context and the people of that context. Such professionals will later recognise that they are walking without limbs in matters pertaining to health. The area that was chosen for conducting the research was KwaBomvana in Xhora (Elliotdale), Eastern Cape province, South Africa. The people who reside there are called AmaBomvana. The area where the Bomvana peoples reside is served by Madwaleni Hospital and eight surrounding clinics. Qualitative ethnographic, feminist methods of data collection supported the research done for Section 1 of the book. Section 2 comprises the translation and implementation of PhD study outcomes and had contributions from various researchers. In the critical research findings of the PhD study, older Xhosa women identify the inclusion of social determinants of health as vital to the health problems they managed within their homes. For them, each disease is linked to a social determinant of health, and the management of health problems includes the management of social determinants of health. For them, it is about the health of the home and not just about the management of disease. They believe that healthy homes make healthy villages, and that the prevention of the development of disease is related to the strengthening of the home. Health and illness should be seen within both physical and spiritual contexts; without health, there can be no progress in the home. When defining health, the older Xhosa women add three critical components to the WHO health definition, namely, food security, healthy children and families, and peace and security in their villages. Prof. Mji further proposes that these three elements should be included in the next revision of the WHO health definition because they are not only important for the Bomvana people where the research was conducted, but also for the rest of humanity. In light of the promise of National Health Insurance and the revitalisation of PHC, this book proposes that these two major national health policies should take cognisance of the IHK utilised by the older Xhosa women. In addition to what this research implies, these policies should also take note of all IHK from the indigenous peoples of South Africa, Africa and the rest of the world, and that there should be a clear plan as to how the knowledge can be supported within a health care systems approach.

---