

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910583596703321
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Titolo	The Practice of Texts : Education and Healing in South India / / Anthony Cerulli
Pubbl/distr/stampa	University of California Press, 2022 Berkeley, CA : , : University of California Press, , [2022] ©2022
ISBN	9780520383555 0520383559
Edizione	[1 ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (240 p.)
Disciplina	615.5/38095483
Soggetti	Medicine, Ayurvedic - Study and teaching - India - Kerala Medicine, Ayurvedic - India - Kerala - History Religion HISTORY / Asia / India & South Asia
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Note on Transliteration and Pronunciation -- Introduction: Gurukulas and Tradition-Making in Modern Ayurveda -- 1 Situating Sanskrit (Texts) in Ayurvedic Education -- 2 Practicing Texts -- 3 Knowledge that Heals, Freely -- 4 From Healing Texts to Ritualized Practice -- 5 Texts in Practice and the Ayurvedic Patient -- Notes -- References -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	A free open access ebook is available upon publication. Learn more at www.luminosoa.org . The Practice of Texts examines the uses of the Sanskrit medical classics in two educational institutions of India's classical life science, Ayurveda: the college and the gurukula. In this interdisciplinary study, Anthony Cerulli probes late- and postcolonial reforms in ayurvedic education, the development of the ayurvedic college, and the impacts of the college curriculum on ways that ayurvedic physicians understand and use the Sanskrit classics in their professional work today. His fieldwork in south India illuminates the nature of philology and ritual in the ayurvedic gurukula and showcases how knowledge is exchanged among students, teachers, and patients.

The result, Cerulli shows, is that the Sanskrit classics are presented and applied differently in the college and gurukula, producing a variety of relationships with these texts among practitioners. By interrogating the politics surrounding the place of the Sanskrit classics in ayurvedic curricula, this book reveals a spectrum of views about the history and tradition of Ayurveda in modern India.
