



Ethnomedicine

By Pamela I. Erickson

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People throughout time and place, no matter their belief system, have sought to discover causes and cures for illness and disease. Among Westerners is a groundswell to augment biomedicine with holistic practices inherent in ethnomedicines of non-Western traditions. Yet missing are awareness and knowledge of the foundations and outgrowth of these alternative concepts. Erickson fills this gap by clearly explaining the basic organizing principles that underlie all medical systems, the full range of theories of disease causation, the geographical distribution of medical practices, and the historical trends that led to biomedical dominance. Her efficient, balanced approach highlights commonalities among the world's vast and diverse medical systems, making ethnomedicine easier to internalize and to apply in clinical settings.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Erickson, with this timely survey, has performed a valuable service for the field of ethnomedicine and for anyone interested in health care." --Marsha B. Quinlan, Washington State University

"This is a very accessible and well-written text. It provides a nice historical background on ethnomedicines and covers all the basic topics well." --Jaida Samudra, University of Wisconsin, Green Bay

"Loved it. It will be great for teaching." --Elisa J. Sobo, San Diego State University

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