

POLITICS OF HOSPITALITY & THE EXTENSION OF CARE TO MEDICAL TRAVELLERS

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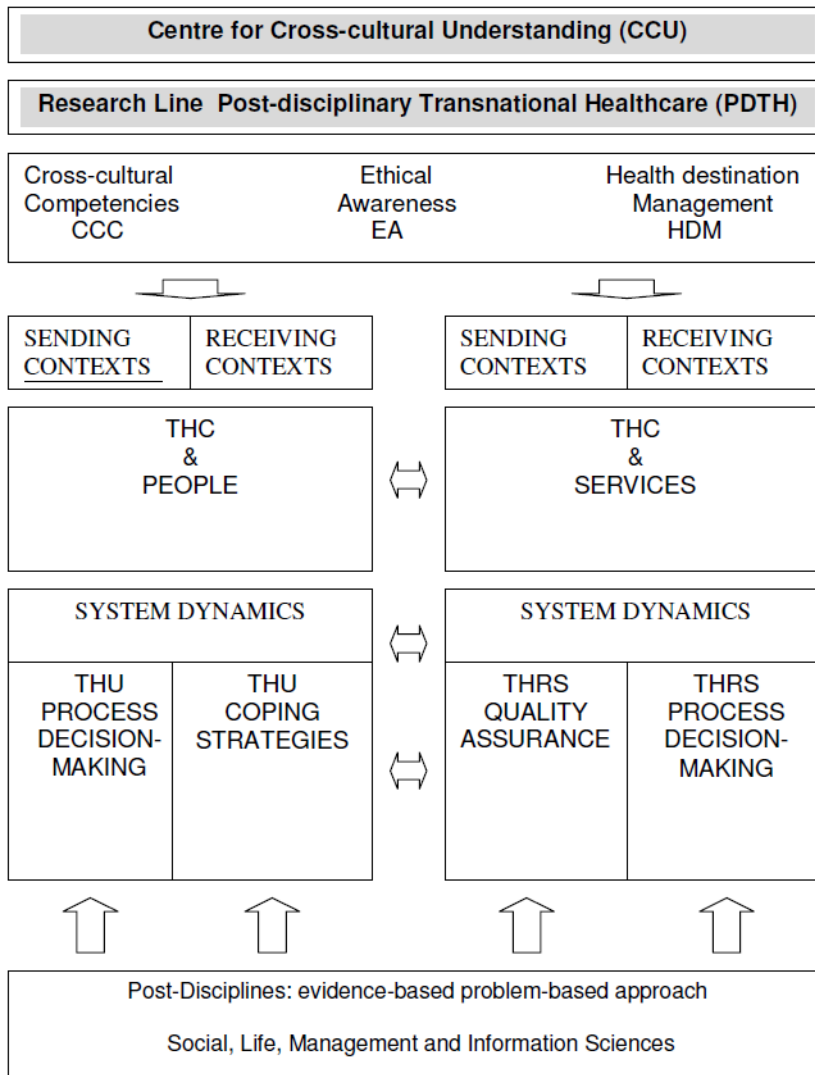
Meghann Ormond (meghann.ormond@wur.nl)
Socio-Spatial Analysis Group, Wageningen University

Point of departure

- Concern
 - ▣ Healthcare traditionally a nationally-bound domain of action
 - ▣ Decoupling of the nation-state and its citizen-subjects as care boundaries get redrawn

- Cultural/political geography approach
 - ▣ New transnational interdependencies and entanglements re-envision the 'national'
 - ▣ Relevance of the 'national' extension of hospitality via healthcare to non-citizen others
 - Formulation of new spaces of intervention
 - Interpellation of new kinds of governable subjects

Commonalities with the CCU



- Cross-cultural competence
 - ▣ Recognition of a range of ‘local’ expertise
 - ▣ Response to perceived ‘lifestyle’ needs and choices
- Ethics
 - ▣ Coping strategies as response to
 - Commodification of health/care
 - Retrenchment of the welfare state
 - ▣ Impacts
 - Sending/receiving contexts on flows
 - Flows on sending/receiving contexts
- Destinations
 - ▣ Public/private healthcare governance
 - ▣ Relationship between standardisation & variegation

What's been done so far...

- 1- Tendency to focus on mobile patient-consumers as autonomous neoliberal agents
 - 'Medical tourism'
- 2- Tendency to focus on how they get constituted through their sending contexts
 - 'Medical exile'

What's been done so far...

- 3- Tendency to focus on catering to the requirements of mobile western patient-consumers & their gatekeepers
 - ▣ 'Quality' assurance relative to coverage, risk & liability
- 4- Tendency to imagine the spaces attracting foreigners in relation to 'outsourcing'/'offshoring'
 - ▣ Ignores/relegates the interests and authority of destinations

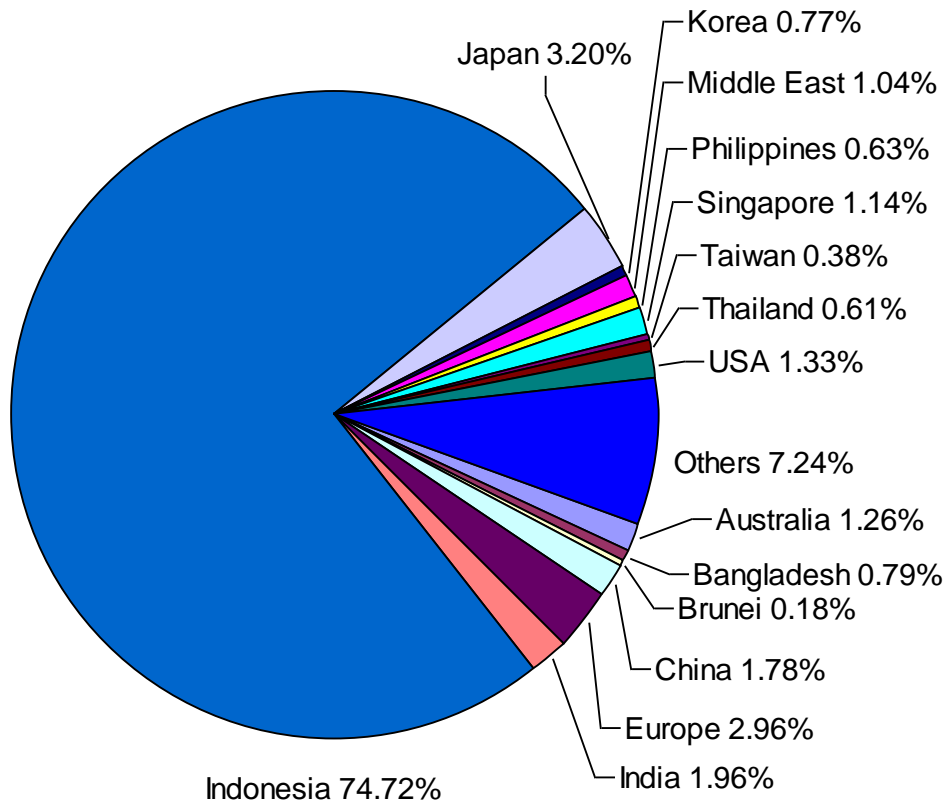
Research objectives

- De-centre focus on mobile (western) patient-consumer flows
 - ▣ Question the quantification/categorisation of flows for what/whose ends
 - ▣ Question the mobilisation of the 'quality of care' concept
- Take a system-based approach
 - ▣ Recognise flows as produced/constituted through their sending and receiving contexts
 - ▣ Recognise these contexts as produced/constituted through their recognition and management of these flows

Current research in Malaysia

- Focus on receiving contexts (destinations)
 - ▣ Extend scope of debate beyond economic development
 - ▣ Link use of 'medical diplomacy' to broader geopolitical interests
 - International recognition
 - Regional relations
 - Cultural/religious allegiances

Related SE Asian case studies



Foreign patients - Malaysia (2008)

Indonesia

- Significant intraregional flows - barriers to national access/availability
- Mobilising cultural similarities to produce regional complementarities

Singapore

- Developed MT hub as healthcare 'ecology' strategy
- Enabling residents to receive care in Malaysia