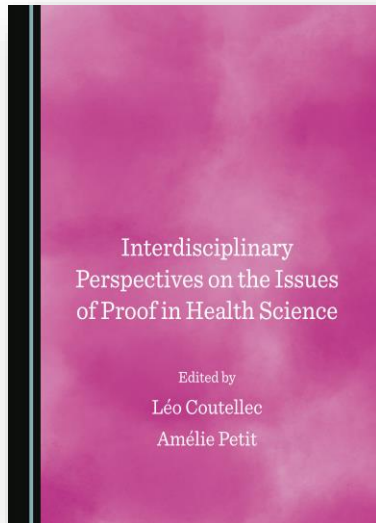


# Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Issues of Proof in Health Science

*Edited by Léo Coutellec and Amélie Petit*



**Hardback**

**ISBN-13:**

978-1-5275-0707-4

**ISBN-10:**

1-5275-0707-6

**Date of Publication:**

17/04/2023

**Pages / Size:**

167 / A5

**Price:**

£62.99

## Book Description

This book offers an interdisciplinary reflection on the scientific and ethical issues of the notion of proof in medicine. The book poses the following questions: why does an argument convince? How does one make a rational decision in the face of contradictory data? Why and how can we prioritize levels of evidence? What is the value of physicians' professional experience in the production of evidence? By asking these questions, this book highlights the debates surrounding the notions of robustness, relevance and statistical significance regarding different conceptions of the reliability of biomedical knowledge. It is intended for both biomedical scientists (clinicians, epidemiologists, biostatisticians, etc.) and researchers in the social sciences and humanities who are interested in the social organization of clinical trials and in decision-making in a context of uncertainty. It also provides a better understanding of social issues in specific contexts, such as gynecological care, prevention policies, significance tests, and the management of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## About the Editors

**Léo Coutellec** is a professor of philosophy of science at the University of Paris-Saclay (France), director of the "research in epistemology and ethics" team at the Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (Paris-Saclay University), and the author of several books, including *The Future of Health*. For an *Ethics of Anticipation* (2018), and the chapter 'Ethics and Scientific Integrity in Biomedical Research. Debates on Trust, Robustness, and Relevance' in the *Handbook of Research Ethics and Scientific Integrity* (2020).

**Amélie Petit** is a postdoctoral researcher of sociology in the "research in epistemology and ethics" at the Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (Paris-Saclay University). Her research focuses on the organization of biomedical research and the conduct of clinical trials. She is interested in how the establishment of epistemic and ethical rules allows different actors to cooperate and ensure patient safety and data reliability. She is currently conducting research on how neurologists deal with the repeated failure of experimental treatments for Alzheimer's disease.

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