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In between looking and seeing: recognition, referral and assessment of children and adolescents' mental health problems at the interface of primary care and secondary mental healthcare

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Propositions

Accompanying Semiha Aydın's dissertation: In between looking and seeing

1. Professionals are inclined to overlook signs of anxiety disorders in minors during their first evaluation of the reason for consultation. (This dissertation)
2. When properly analysed, referral letters do show sufficient agreement with the classifications made in specialised mental healthcare. (This dissertation)
3. For prevention and timely recognition of mental health problems, it is necessary to move beyond diagnostic accuracy, and to investigate the starting point of professionals' susceptibility to such problems. (This dissertation)
4. One cannot help but wonder how much potential referral letters hold when truly accepted as a substantive method instead of being viewed as an administrative piece of paper. (This dissertation)
5. Future research should focus on the chain of events and on how information obtained from various sources can be integrated rather than focus on each individual assessment method or informant. (This dissertation)
6. General practitioners, parents, and mental health specialists: all informants and assessment methods have their unique value in the recognition of mental health problems.
7. Having insight in the type of problems is important. Yet has no practical meaning as long as the decision is overruled by accessibility and availability of mental healthcare.
8. As the study of history is to understand where we came from and might be heading towards, so do retrospective patient records help to understand day to day decision-making in health care.
9. "The map is not the territory" and diagnostic classifications are not the mental health problem - not to trivialise the value of a thorough diagnostic sketch when deciding on which roads to take for treatment. *Based on Alfred Korzybski*
10. Writing is like cooking: it is easy to add things, but tough to remove.
11. "There are two who are never satisfied - the lover of the world and the lover of knowledge" - and so are PhD candidates. *Based on Jalāl al-Dīn Muḥammad Balkhī Rūmī*