

University of Groningen

Making Milk

Verwaal, Ruben

IMPORTANT NOTE: You are advised to consult the publisher's version (publisher's PDF) if you wish to cite from it. Please check the document version below.

Publication date:
2017

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Verwaal, R. (2017). *Making Milk: Breast Pumps and Galactagogues in Enlightenment Europe*. Paper presented at Stipendiatenkolloquium, Gotha, Germany.

Copyright

Other than for strictly personal use, it is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

The publication may also be distributed here under the terms of Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, indicated by the "Taverne" license. More information can be found on the University of Groningen website: <https://www.rug.nl/library/open-access/self-archiving-pure/taverne-amendment>.

Take-down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

Downloaded from the University of Groningen/UMCG research database (Pure): <http://www.rug.nl/research/portal>. For technical reasons the number of authors shown on this cover page is limited to 10 maximum.



Stipendiatenkolloquium des Herzog-Ernst-Stipendienprogramms

Ruben Verwaal (Groningen): „Making Milk. Breast Pumps and Galactagogues in Enlightenment Europe“

Mittwoch, 26. April 2017 | 17 Uhr | Forschungszentrum Gotha
(Seminarraum im Pagenhaus, Schloss Friedenstein)

Early modern mothers did not like to breast-feed. Many young mothers did not produce enough, suffered from sore nipples, or they wanted to be liberated from this time-consuming practice and fulfil their social and sexual duties. Yet on the basis of medical and chemical studies, physicians were passionately convinced of the benefits of milk and maternal breastfeeding. This paper argues that 18th century physicians developed new strategies to remedy this widespread antipathy against mother's milk. Besides applying

rhetoric in poems and popular how-to books, doctors promoted maternal breastfeeding by developing new galactagogues (drugs that increased lactation) and innovative breast pumps.

Ruben Verwaal is a PhD candidate at the University of Groningen. His research project “Blood, Sweat & Tears” focuses on the role of chemistry of bodily fluids in 18th century medicine and Dutch Enlightenment culture.

