

Woman and Urban Family Medicine In the Momoyama Era:

Evidence from the Honganji *jinai* in Ōsaka Tenma and Kyōto Rokujō

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Abstract

This paper focuses on the information contained in the diary, kept on a virtually daily basis for over a quarter of a century, of the aristocrat and urban physician Yamashina Tokitsune (1543-1611). The diary provides extensive information on Tokitsune's medical activity and on his patients, most of whom were commoners affiliated with the Jōdo Shinshū Honganji urban precinct in Ōsaka and Kyoto from the mid-1580s through the early 1600s.

Living amid his neighbors, Tokitsune's primary focus was family medicine. We learn, with a granular richness matched by no other source prior to the Edo period, about family composition, people's names, children's ages, longer-term medical histories, medicines, occupations. There is also, unmatched in any other source,

considerable information relating to female health. The paper will examine: some examples of the health care available to women; obstetrical concerns (pre-partum, miscarriage, parturition, post-partum); and the new possibilities for proactive health management in this era. We will also suggest that information on medicine provides a window into community bonds and female support networks.

Speaker bio

Andrew Goble is a specialist of medieval Japan. Originally a researcher of thirteenth and fourteenth century political and intellectual history, his interests evolved to embrace Japanese history in a broader transnational East Asian context, and his more

recent research has focused on medical history, with particular attention to issues of medicine and society. He is author of two monographs, co-editor of two essay collections, and of numerous articles. His most recent monograph (University of Hawaii Press, 2011) is *Confluences of Medicine in Medieval Japan: Buddhist Healing, Chinese Knowledge, Islamic Formulas, and Wounds of War*. His two most recent essays have appeared in Japanese in the edited collection (an outgrowth of a conference held at the University of Oregon) *Manase Dōsan to Kinsei Nihon Iryō Shakai* (Takeda Kagaku Shinkō Zaidan Kyōu Shooku, 2015). He is currently (September 2015-June 2016) a Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Invited Fellow (sponsored by Professor NIKI Hiroshi of Ōsaka City University).