



Università  
Ca' Foscari  
Venezia

**PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE:** MAT-MED *Materia Medica in Transit. The Transforming Knowledge of Healing Plants*

**FUNDING PROGRAMME:** H2020 Marie-Sklodowska Curie Actions Individual Fellowship

**CALL:** H2020-MSCA-IF-2018-Global Fellowship – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships

**SCIENTIFIC FIELDS:** Social Sciences and Humanities

**HOST DEPARTMENT:** DSU – Department of Humanities

**SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE:** Mario Infelise

**FELLOW:** Sabrina Minuzzi

**FINANCIAL DATA:**

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 251.002,56	€ 251.002,56

**ABSTRACT:**

The MAT-MED in Transit project focuses on the circulation of scientific knowledge related to the medicinal virtues of 'simples' (mainly plants) in early modern Italy through archival records and an in-depth study of two vernacular textual genres, herbals and recipe books, produced both in manuscript and printed form between the 16th and the early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. The project will reconstruct the use of plants/substances with the awareness that Italy represents a segment of the more global transit of medical matter between European countries and between Europe and the West and East Indies. MAT-MED in Transit aims to ascertain who were the consumers of the huge production of printed books and manuscripts of vernacular *Materia Medica* and the women's role in this process of appropriation; why and how, not only professionals but ordinary people, read books and penned manuscripts on local and exotic *Materia Medica*; how the circulation and use of *Materia Medica* affected their practices of healing and the underlying theoretical framework. Through a novel interdisciplinary approach that builds on the applicant's dual expertise in History of Medicine and Book History, MAT-MED in Transit looks at the past *Materia Medica* with the ultimate aim of raising current awareness of the value of Nature as a resource for our everyday life.

A close collaboration between the Center for Digital Scholarship (CDS) at Brown University, the Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL) and the new Ca' Foscari's Center for Digital Research in Humanities, will allow the creation of innovative digital tools that can be supplemented in the future by other European sources, with the goal of exploring new digital methods for historical research.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
1 <sup>st</sup> November 2019	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022

**PARTNERSHIP:**

<b>1. Ca' Foscari University</b>	<b>Italia</b>	<b>Coordinatore</b>
<b>2. Brown University</b>	<b>Stati Uniti d'America</b>	<b>Partner</b>