Medical images and illustrations are important in medical research, clinical practice, and public communication. Within the doctor-patient encounter, the presence of the medical image often signifies the absence of the body. But do we have the tools for grasping what medical images expose and hide from view? This seminar employs the tools and insights of the humanities to explore questions such as: What makes medical images so important? What roles do they play? How do images depict what they are about? How are images produced and why does it matter? How do medical images travel between research communities and the public permeating public imaginaries? What is the role of artists?

The event is part of the cycle of meetings “The Exposed Body” curated by Camilla Salvaneschi and Angela Vettese.