THE ANATOMICAL COLLECTIONS OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF MONTPELLIER: MUSEOGRAPHIC PROSPECTS

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Montpellier is well known thanks to the teaching of Medicine since the end of the 12th century. The French Revolution created a new frame in that field, with a bigger interest in particular in practical teaching, and thus in pedagogical material. The anatomical collections of the Faculty of Medicine grew during the 19th and 20th centuries: more than 5,000 items are today exhibited in the Anatomical Museum (1). Besides, in 2012, the Faculty of Medicine of Montpellier got in donation the anatomical collection of the Faculty of Medicine of Paris (Paris V – Descartes), the previous Delmas-Orfila-Rouvière Museum, composed of more than 7,000 items (2), among them the academic pedagogical items and the fairground collection of the Dr. Spitzner Museum (3). In parallel, the historical building of the Faculty of Medicine of Montpellier, which houses the collections, is evolving because of the recent moving of the major part of the students in a new campus. Several areas will be thus dedicated for the enhancement of the anatomical collections. This turning point will be a good opportunity to improve and develop their conservation and their museography..

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