The conference Picturing Women’s Health 1750-1910 will explore the interface of diverse discourses that constructed ideas about women's health during the Romantic and Victorian periods. In these years, writers and artists documented extraordinary discoveries and advancements in science, anatomy, and medicine. This inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary conference will examine the vicissitudes of attitudes towards women's 'healthy' and 'unhealthy' bodies over the one-hundred-and-sixty year period. In particular, conference papers will consider representations of the female body in fictional/non-fictional literature, fine arts, and visual media and how they reflected or influenced women's understandings and experiences of their own health and bodies.

Key topics could include (but are not limited to):
Madness and hysteria; prostitution; virginity; sexuality; motherhood and wifehood; birth and breast-feeding; pregnancy, birth-control, and abortion; fashion (dress, cosmetics, decoration); exercise and well-being; unhealthy spaces (including spa and resort towns, hospitals, slums, factories, home); age (childhood, puberty, menopause); illness and disease (venereal diseases, disabilities, disfigurations); death and grief (terminal illness, death of spouse or child, execution); medicine (diagnosis, prescription, treatment); medication and surgery; health and superstition; metaphors of health; definitions of health.

For more information, or to submit an abstract please email: womenshealth.2011@gmail.com
Deadline for abstract submissions is 5th November 2010
Visit: http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/english/events/pwhconference