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Title: Embodied Semiotic Artifacts: on the Role of the Skin as a Semiotic Niche

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Abstract: The skin can be described as a niche structured by semiotic artefacts (tattoos)

that work as symbolic-indexical devices (dicisigns). New biocompatible technologies responsive to organic and environmental variations change the role of the skin as a semiotic niche. New devices are transforming the skin into a niche of interactive interfaces. In this article we introduce a variety of technoscientific artefacts, which are readily available, and their main characteristics. We are interested in the recent proliferation of devices based on biotechnologies that can be coupled to the body, especially epithelial (superficial or invasive), and how they change what we know as 'embodied

communication'.

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