**Medical Approach to Healing**

**The aim of medicine is surely not to make men virtuous; it is to safeguard and rescue them from the consequences of their vices. *(H. L. Mencken)***

**The American Medical Association, operating from a platform of negative vigilance, presents no solutions but busily fights each change and then loudly supports it against the next proposal. *(John H. Knowles)***

**The art of medicine consists of amusing the patient while nature cures the disease. (Voltaire)**

**If you would die fagged to death like a crow with the king birds after him -- be a school-master; if you would wax thin and savage, like a half-fed spider -- be a lawyer; if you would go off like an opium-eater in love with your starving delusions -- be a doctor. *(Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.)***

**The best practitioners give to their patients the least medicine. *(Frederick Saunders)***

**Grandma: “I’m just going to the doctor’s for a blood test.” Dolly: “Did you study for it, Grandma?” (Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)**

**People make such a big deal of things. For instance, yesterday my doctor gave me a choice. He said it was cigarettes or cancer, one or the other. I didn't hesitate. I didn't cry about it. I gave up cancer. What's the big deal? (Robert Orben, in The Joke Teller's Handbook)**

**There is more contradiction between the science of medicine and the art of medicine than between the science of aeronautics and the art of flying. *(Francis Weld Peabody)***

**Several generations ago, Dorothy Canfield Fisher, a celebrity speaker on culture, pop and not so pop, also loaned her voice to the defense of a medical profession ever under attack. Said she: “Some people think doctors and nurses can put scrambled eggs back into the shell.” (L. M. Boyd)  
Medicine may be defined as the art or the science of keeping a patient quiet with frivolous reasons for his illness and amusing him with remedies good or bad until nature kills him or cures him. *(Gilles Menage)***

**Medicine is not a lucrative profession. It is a divine one. *(John Coakley Lettsom)***

**We have not lost faith, but we have transferred it from God to the medical profession. *(George Bernard Shaw)***

**Medicine should be practiced as a form of friendship. *(Leon Bernard)***

**The doctor of the future will give no medicine but will interest his patients in the care of the human frame, in diet, and in the cause and prevention of disease. (Thomas A. Edison)**

**Medicine heals doubts as well as diseases. *(Karl Marx)***

**The history of medicine is a story of amazing foolishness and amazing intelligence. *(Jerome Tarshis)***

**A hospital bed is a parked taxi with the meter running. (Groucho Marx)  
  
Some 2 million persons who enter hospitals in the U.S. each year with one ailment wind up with another. Hospital-related infections are fatal to about 15,000 Americans every year. (Isaac Asimov's Book of Facts, p. 230)**

**Always give the patient hope, even when death seems at hand. *(Ambroise Pare)***

**I am interested in physical medicine because my father was. I am interested in medical research because I believe in it. I am interested in arthritis because I have it. *(Bernard Baruch)***

**The joy of medicine is the challenge of making a solid diagnosis, the delight in besting (if not momentarily) an intern or resident, the satisfaction (if rare) of actually helping someone, the sheer carntankerousness of being able to tell the bureaucracy to "stuff it." *(Michael J. Halberstam)***

**I always have to laugh when the AAA claims that doctors have no special powers over people. How many people can tell you to take off your clothes and you'll do it. *(Robert S. Mendelsohn)***

**First farming, next trade, last service, or at least begging; if you cannot obtain alms, learn to be a doctor. *(Indian Marathi proverb)***

**Medicine: When in good health, make fun of it. (*Gustave Flaubert)***

**A man need not have grown old in the practice of medicine to bear witness to its having undergone considerable changes. *(Peter Mere Latham)***

**Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died. *(Erma Bombeck)***

**The medical profession is a noble and pleasant one, though laborious and often full of anxiety. *(Andrew James Symington)***

**Medicine is a noble profession but a damn bad business. *(Humphrey Rolleston)***

**Medicine is an occupation for slaves. *(Benjamin Rush)***

**Medicine, the only profession that labors incessantly to destroy the reason for its existence. *(James Bryce)***

**The place of medicine is in the stream of life, not on its banks. *(Rene Sand)***

**I had plastic surgery last week. I cut up my credit cards. (Henny Youngman)**

**The prime goal is to alleviate suffering, and not to prolong life. And if your treatment does not alleviate suffering, but only prolongs life, that treatment should be stopped. *(Christian Barnard)***

**There is no greater reward in our profession than the knowledge that God has entrusted us with the physical care of his people. *(Elmer Hess)***

**During a month long doctors' strike in Israel, the death rate declined by 50 percent. *(Paul Stirling Hagerman, in It's a Weird World, p. 100)***

**During every doctor’s strike on record for which statistics are available, the death rate always went down. In Canada. In Los Angeles. In South America's Columbia, down by 37 percent. In Israel, down by 50 percent. (L. M. Boyd)**

**Thanks to modern medicine, we are no longer forced to endure prolonged pain, disease, discomfort, and wealth. (Robert Orben)**

**The doctor finally called in a patient who had waited over an hour for his appointment. “I’m really sorry about the delay.” the physician apologized. “Oh, I really don’t mind,” the patient replied, “but I had hoped you’d be able to treat my ailment in its earliest stages.” (Herm Albright, in The Saturday Evening News)**

**Medicine is like a woman who changes with the fashions. *(August Bier)***

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