

Eight Fundamental Principles of Science and Medicine

Eight Characteristics of an Excellent Physician

By Rob Rennebohm, MD

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Eight fundamental principles of science and medicine:

Below are 8 fundamental principles of science and medicine that I think all can agree are extremely important and must not be violated by physicians, health authorities, and health-related institutions:

1. To understand phenomena, a variety of plausible, scientifically-sound hypotheses should be solicited, welcomed, considered, respectfully discussed, prioritized, and critically evaluated.

2. Data should be collected wisely, accurately, sufficiently, and honestly, and should be of the highest possible scientific quality. Those data should be properly analyzed and honestly reported.
3. Scientific investigation must not be biased, influenced, or otherwise affected by conflicts of interest.
4. Patient education is fundamental and should be thorough, honest, thoughtful, and demystifying.
5. Research involving human subjects should always involve proper informed consent.
6. Disease prevention is ideal; when illness does occur, early treatment offers the best chance for good outcome; when severe disease develops, bold appropriately aggressive treatment should be promptly provided. Treatment should be anticipatory,
7. The root cause(s) of problems should be sought, as opposed to focusing only on symptoms and epiphenomena.
8. Development and use of biological weapons represents a crime against humanity and should be strictly prohibited.

I think all can agree that none of the above principles should be violated.

Eight characteristics of an “excellent physician:”

In addition to respecting and honoring the above 8 fundamental principles of science and medicine, an “excellent physician” is:

1. Radical---i.e., seeks to understand and address the root cause(s) of problems, instead of focusing only on symptoms and epiphenomena. In Latin, “radical” means “root.” So, properly understood, a radical approach is one that seeks to determine and address the deepest root cause(s) of a problem.
2. Conservative---i.e., seeks to preserve important understandings and practices that have stood the test of time (e.g., obtaining a thorough history, performing a complete physical exam, and altruistically spending the physician time and effort that a patient needs and deserves) and resists abandonment of such understandings and practices.
3. Liberal---i.e., is open to consideration of new, different ideas; is willing to respect behaviors and opinions that are different from one’s own.
4. Progressive---e.g., seeks to increasingly and more completely comprehend Truth; and seeks to increasingly develop and express the best of our human capacities, as individuals and as a society.
5. Evolutionary---i.e., believes in careful, incremental, step-by-step improvements as new insights gradually accumulate.
6. Revolutionary---i.e., is willing to participate in major, relatively rapid change, when/if new knowledge and new research strongly suggests that a new way of understanding and/or treating disease is highly likely to be superior to “old” ways.
7. Appropriately tolerant; appropriately intolerant; and knows how to wisely differentiate between the two.

8. Empathetic, compassionate, honest, courageous, and altruistic---to an exemplary degree.

An excellent physician is not simply and only “conservative” or simply and only “liberal,” and does not view other “excellent physicians” as being simply and only “conservative” or “liberal,” because each excellent physician possesses each of the above 8 characteristics/capacities and expresses those capacities at appropriate times and to appropriate extents. In that sense, an individual “excellent physician” is radical, conservative, liberal, progressive, evolutionary, revolutionary, appropriately tolerant, and appropriately intolerant---all at the same time---and is not reactionary, authoritarian, or extreme. This understanding (of themselves and each other) among excellent physicians reduces polarization, simplistic binary thinking, extremism, inappropriate intolerance, and authoritarianism. This understanding promotes humility, appreciation of complexity, appreciation of spectra, appropriate tolerance, healthy dialogue, cooperative problem solving, democracy, and human progress.

If the COVID-19 pandemic had been addressed and managed by “excellent physicians” (and excellent health authorities), who exhibit the above 8 characteristics and honor the 8 fundamental principles of science and medicine, then the COVID-19 pandemic would have been managed very differently, would now be over, and would have had a far better outcome (i.e., far fewer hospitalizations and deaths would have occurred).¹⁻⁴ Had excellent physicians, scientists, and health authorities been in positions of leadership and power for the many years prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the pandemic would not have occurred in the first place.^{1,2} That is why it is important for physicians, scientists, and health authorities---particularly those in positions of leadership---to try to emulate “excellent physicians.”

Likewise, it is important for political leaders and the general public to try to emulate the characteristics and commitments of excellent physicians. Such emulation could result in less polarization, less simplistic thinking, less extremism, less intolerance, and less authoritarianism; and would promote more humility, democracy, appreciation of complexity, healthy dialogue, and cooperative problem solving. If the general public and political leaders were to address humanity’s other pressing problems (e.g., geo-political tensions, global economic instability, poverty, “forever wars,” the specter of nuclear war, and confusion about climate change) with the approach and commitments of “excellent physicians,” it is highly likely that more peace, democracy, and social beauty would result.

ADDITIONAL READING:

¹ A Brief Summary of the COVID-19 Pandemic

<https://notesfromthesocialclinic.org/a-brief-summary-of-the-covid-19-pandemic/>

² THE ROOT CAUSE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND ITS MISMANAGEMENT

<https://notesfromthesocialclinic.org/the-root-cause-of-the-covid-19-pandemic-and-its-mismanagement/>

The above “Root Cause” article provides specific examples of how each of the 8 fundamental principles of science and medicine (not to mention ethics) have been egregiously violated by key leaders and followers of the prevailing COVID-19 narrative and its mass vaccination campaign.

³ How Has the COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Campaign Made the Natural Selection and Rapid Propagation of a HIGHLY Virulent Variant Highly Likely?

<https://notesfromthesocialclinic.org/2315-2/>

⁴ In Anticipation of a Highly Virulent SARS-CoV-2 Variant: An ADDENDUM

<https://notesfromthesocialclinic.org/in-anticipation-of-a-highly-virulent-sars-cov-2-variant-an-addendum/>

Rob Rennebohm, MD

Website: www.notesfromthesocialclinic.org

Email: rmrennebohm@gmail.com

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