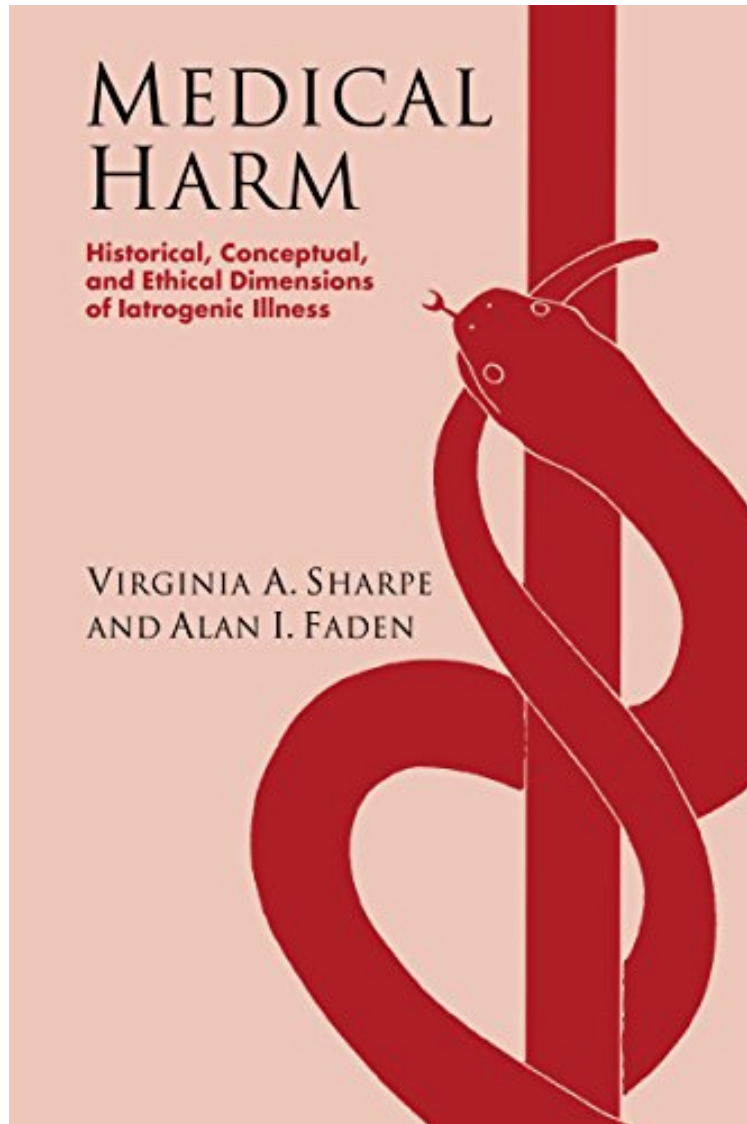


Medical Harm: Historical, Conceptual and Ethical Dimensions of Iatrogenic Illness

Virginia Ashby Sharpe, Alan I. Faden
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Virginia Ashby Sharpe, Alan I. Faden : **Medical Harm: Historical, Conceptual and Ethical Dimensions of Iatrogenic Illness** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Medical Harm: Historical, Conceptual and Ethical Dimensions of Iatrogenic Illness:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent readBy CustomerDr. Faden's and Dr. Sharpe's book is exceptional and informational. I hope Dr. Faden will write a follow-up book in the near future.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A brief critique of "Medical Harm"By Philip LevittThis is a highly academic exacting

discussion of how and why doctors damage some of their patients and the view of the profession of this type of injury. It is very accurate and well researched. It tends toward the end of the spectrum which blames the systems in place in medicine as opposed to the individual responsibility of the doctor. It is an important part of the debate about how to make medicine safer. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A timely read By WriterFor anyone involved in the healing arts, the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) recent report on preventable errors could not have been a surprise. The book *MEDICAL HARM...* is an excellent and comprehensive look at the subject of iatrogenic illness and injury. It gives some valuable history that makes the IOM report more understandable. This book should be required reading for every health professional, medical and nursing student, hospital administrator and board member.

It is estimated that up to thirteen percent of hospital admissions result from the adverse effects of diagnosis or treatment, and that almost seventy percent of iatrogenic complications are preventable. The obligation to 'do no harm' has been central to medical conduct since ancient times, yet iatrogenic illness has now come to be recognized as a significant risk factor in health care delivery. This book integrates history, philosophy, medical ethics and empirical data to examine the concept and phenomenon of medical harm. Issues covered include appropriateness of care, acceptable risk and practitioner accountability, and the book concludes with recommendations for limiting iatrogenic harm. Essential reading for medical ethicists, physicians and those involved in health care policy and administration, this stimulating and highly readable book will be of interest to all providers of health care, and many of their patients.

"Sharpe and Faden...have provided a useful exploration of the historical and ethical basis of medical harm laying the groundwork for addressing this problem." *The Lancet*"As medicine gains new knowledge, its power for both harm and good expands exponentially. It becomes daily more urgent, therefore, for all of us to comprehend the ethical and scientific dimensions of medical harm. This book cogently and provocatively examines a neglected sector of modern medical practice." Edmund D. Pellegrino, M.D., Center for Clinical Bioethics, Georgetown University Medical Center" In addition to providing a comprehensive distillation of the philosophical and ethical bases of medical practice as they relate to patient harm, several of the concepts advanced in this book are especially noteworthy." *Journal of the American Medical Association*"Sharpe and Faden have written a thought-provoking and original book. Highly readable and impressive in scope, the work should engage a broad range of people interested in the health-care system, including but not limited to medical and nursing educators, health services researchers, bioethicists, and health-care policy analysts." *Medical Humanities* "...provides an important history of the concept of iatrogenic illness, explores ethical tensions in the doctor-patient relationship, which make the recognition of error difficult, and provides valuable tools to resolve these tensions." *Chicago Medicine*"...this book is an important one for medical professionals...nicely written and makes for easy reading. Throughout, the authors use well-documented, specific cases to illustrate particular points." *New England Journal of Medicine*"This is a very important, groundbreaking overview of an issue about which there exists much intellectual and emotional confusion and misunderstanding in our culture with its excessive optimism about the beneficence of science and its medical applications." *Doody's Health Sciences Book Journal*"Virginia Sharpe and Alan Faden have written a book that will be of great use to those trying to understand and minimize medical harm...I would encourage the medical ethics and education communities to consider Sharpe and Faden's framework for thinking about medical harm carefully as they develop and revise guidelines for professional practice." *Feminist Approaches to Bioethics*