

Foreword

Medicine and humanity are two inseparable yet mutually enriching subjects of knowledge. To cultivate a humane spirit in the mind of health professionals is a must in preventing the materialization of medicine. The change of the domestic medical environment in recent years has changed the treatment pattern of physicians. Apparently, to cure a patient's symptoms as quickly as possible becomes more important than the process of healing. Besides treating patients' uncomfortable symptoms, the wholistic method of healing an illness should be equally important in medicine. A person's spiritual dimension however is profoundly diverse. In order to offer complete healing, physicians must not only be a treating technician. Medicine is an art involving an interactive relationship that emphasizes examination with care, diagnosis with accuracy and communication with empathy. To implement this goal, medical education must try to instill an empathetic feeling into students so that they can develop a humanistic view of life.

In celebrating the promotion of Chung Shan Medical and Dental College to a University status, our research center on Medical Humanities. I would encourage any concerned scholars to contribute to this journal and support this important task of promoting dialogue in medical humanities.

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