

should be properly informed of the seriousness of the illness, and, under special circumstances, the patient himself. In the latter case it is generally wise to get the clergyman in attendance, or some near friend, to communicate the gravity of the situation to the patient. This is much less alarming than if the physician does it. Avoid all things which have a tendency to discourage and depress the patient.

5. *Frequency of visits.* Avoid unnecessary frequency in visiting your patients, and do not stay longer than your attention to the patient requires.

6. *Incurable cases.* A physician should not abandon a patient whose case is deemed incurable, for his attendance may continue to be highly useful to the patient and comforting to the friends.

DUTIES OF PHYSICIANS TO EACH OTHER.

1. *Support of professional character.* Every individual, on entering the profession, as he becomes entitled to all its privileges and immunities, increases the obligation to exert his abilities to maintain its dignity and honor, to exalt its standing, and to extend the bounds of usefulness. He should always uphold the profession and should entertain a due respect for his superiors.

2. *Advertising.* It is derogatory to the dignity of the profession to resort to public advertisements, or cards, or handbills. Any of these are highly reprehensible in a regular physician. In the case of a physician commencing the practice of his profession, or removing to another locality, a simple announcement by an unobtrusive card in the public press is unobjectionable.

3. *Patents.* It is derogatory to professional character to hold a patent for any surgical instrument or medicine, or to dispense a secret nostrum, for, if such nostrum is of real efficacy, any concealment regarding it, is inconsistent with beneficence and professional liberality; and, if mystery alone gives it value and importance, such craft implies disgraceful ignorance or fraudulent avarice. It is also reprehensible for physicians to give certificates attesting the efficacy of patent or secret medicines, or in any way to permit the use of them.

4. *Professional services of physicians to each other.* All practitioners of medicine, their wives and children, while under the parental care, are entitled to the gratuitous services of any physician whose assistance may be required.

5. *Vicarious offices.* To attend patients for professional brothers is an act of courtesy to be performed with the utmost consideration for the interest and care of the family physician, and when for a short period all pecuniary obligations for such services should be awarded to the family physician. When the attendance is for a long period and the family physician is away in search of pleasure, then the physician in attendance is entitled to the whole fee, or a portion of it, as arranged with the family physician.

6. *Consultations.* Consultations should be encouraged in difficult or protracted cases as they give rise to confidence. A physician should consult with any regular physician. No one is considered a regular