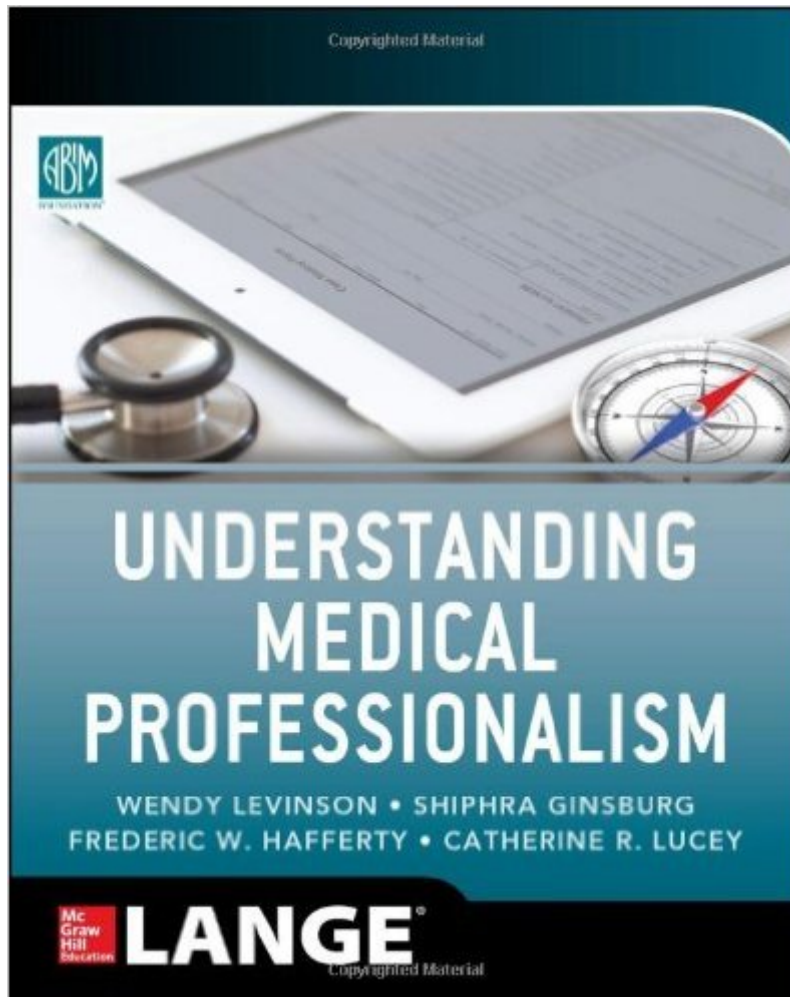


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# Understanding Medical Professionalism



## Synopsis

A groundbreaking text on how to deliver the highest quality patient care through professionalism in daily medical practice Five Star Doody's Review: "This is an outstanding book for all clinicians and professors, indeed for everyone in medicine to help mentor and self-police the medical profession." • "Understanding Medical Professionalism is a 'must-have' for all involved in the healing arts. The book demystifies professionalism, bringing it from a philosophical, mystical concept to a practical everyday set of behaviors. The twelve chapters, in a uniform way, provide wonderful, real-life stories that illustrate the challenges faced by practitioners, describe ways to deal with those challenges, and help develop the personal and institutional skills necessary to provide excellent and compassionate care." -- Carlos A. Pellegrini, MD, FACS, FRCSI (Hon.), The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery, University of Washington "Insightful, practical, and authoritative. Building on their own research and that of others, Levinson et al. offer a comprehensive discussion of medical professionalism from the refreshing perspective of behavioral skills and an enabling healthcare system. Understanding Medical Professionalism has fundamentally reframed the professionalism debate and will likely remain the definitive work in this field for quite some time." -- David G. Nichols, MD, President and CEO, The American Board of Pediatrics "The authors' ambitious goal of providing a framework for the continuum of physician development of professional behaviors, from student through expert senior clinician, has been met. Students will find the text modular and instructive; residents will benefit from the reinforcement of positive professional behaviors and explication of strategies to excel in this competency; educational program directors will find the framework and tools for assessment and strategies for remediation enriching; and the expert professional will find subtle opportunities to grow to mastery of this most important physician competency." -- Thomas J. Nasca, MD, MACP, Chief Executive Officer, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, Professor of Medicine, Jefferson Medical College "The authors offer a framework and an approach to medical professionalism that enable us to understand it, teach it, and incorporate it into our day-to-day lives as health professionals. It is a much needed addition to our armamentarium as we work to align the education of health professionals with the needs and expectations of the society we serve." -- George E. Thibault, MD, President, Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation

## Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: McGraw-Hill Education / Medical; 1 edition (May 16, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0071807438

ISBN-13: 978-0071807432

Product Dimensions: 1 x 7 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #152,032 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in Â Books > Textbooks >

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## Customer Reviews

Best book I've seen on medical professionalism. I read this to inform a presentation I did on Professionalism in a hospital. It also gave me ideas for more in depth presentations for later.

No longer can medical professionalism be regarded solely as an abstract concept or merely a fond aspiration. This actionable collaboration will enable a broad readership to define, model, and identify acceptable professional behavior, and to remediate everyday lapses in this core clinical skill. The book's illustrative cases, learning objectives, tables, key learning points, and comprehensive references make it a treasure in modern health professions education. This thorough book combines the erudition of education science, the how-to qualities of a sophisticated syllabus, and the comprehensiveness of pedagogic strategies and interventions to rationally, and finally, implement the 2002 Physician Charter. John A. Benson, Jr, MD President Emeritus, American Board of Internal Medicine Dean and Professor of Medicine, Emeritus Oregon Health & Science University Portland, OR

"Understanding Medical Professionalism" is a clear, practical description, discussion, and sometimes even "how-to" workbook for anyone who wants to be a better doctor. It clearly shows how some medical professionals may be born with better skills, but all of us can learn. And rather than hide behind the excuse that professionalism "is impossible to define but you know it when you see it," Drs. Wendy Levinson, Shiphra Ginsburg, Frederic Hafferty, and Catherine Lucey have no qualms about defining what medical professionalism is and should be. Every physician should always remember who is the most important person in the room in any medical encounter--the

patient, not the doctor. We also have to remember that what may be just one of a score or more of patient encounters during our day is actually the most important event of the day, and sometimes even the life, of that patient. As emphasized by the authors, professionalism depends on individual behaviors as well as how the medical system is structured and functions. Furthermore, professionalism, like medical knowledge, requires initial training followed by lifelong learning. This book should be required reading for medical students and for residents in all specialties, and even the most experienced of us should keep a copy around for periodic reinforcement. Lee Goldman, MD, Dean of the Faculties of Health Sciences and Medicine, and Executive Vice President for Health and Biomedical Sciences, Columbia University Medical Center

This is an excellent volume which will be of value to all physicians who are concerned about the state of the medical profession today. Indeed that should be "all physicians" because the risks to the profession, which affect all physicians, are more numerous and threatening than ever before in history. Beginning with the "Physician Charter on Medical Professionalism," published in 2002, the authors chart a course to understand and enhance medical professionalism in the modern era. The main topics of patient-centered care, integrity and accountability, fostering excellence, stewardship of healthcare resources and education and evaluation are presented clearly and from the volume's unique perspective - modeling the behaviors of professionalism. The concepts are clear and concrete; the lessons are irrefutable, and the impact on medicine will be profound if we accept and embrace the authors' challenge. This is a book which should be promoted by all medical professional societies and read by all physicians, and it should be a mandatory part of the curriculum of all residency programs. William J. Oetgen, MD, MBA, FACC, FACP, Executive Vice President, Science, Education & Quality, American College of Cardiology, Washington, DC

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