

Humanism in Healthcare

- Ask yourself: What is medicine?
 - Typically, medicine is thought of as the following: an applied science, a form of techniques/body of knowledge, an attempt at removing diseases, application of therapies, etc.
 - Consider that this definition might be wrong: It could go beyond this.
- Medicine is entering into a physician-patient relationship for the purpose of healing. It is a pursuit of the good of the patient.
 - It's possible that certain things are good for the patient beyond what you might initially grasp- beyond the technical.
 - Physician-assisted suicide, abortion, etc.
- How do we decide whether certain procedures are good to do or not?
 - Consider this: If medicine is simply application of techniques, you would just keep trying to assist a sick patient with maximum effort until the patient passes away.
- Lesson we can learn from examination of medicine: It is sometimes worthwhile or necessary to withdraw care. Why?
 - It's not good for the patient. It might give them the best chance at maximizing life, but sometimes, physicians need to forego this.
 - The physician-patient relationship towards the end of healing might involve things that look a lot like withholding.
 - This is truly pursuing the good of the patient and the art alongside science.