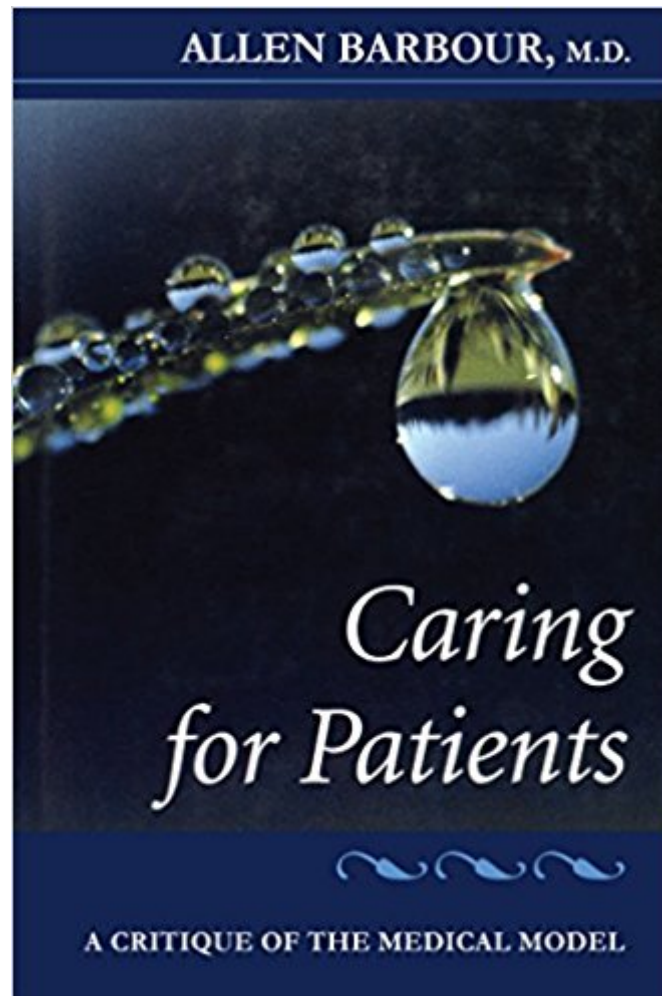




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Caring For Patients: A Critique Of The Medical Model



Synopsis

"See your patient as a person, not a disease." This is the essential message of an experienced and compassionate physician who questions the prevailing medical model of patient care - that every illness has a physical cause that can be identified and treated medically - and who argues for the necessity of taking the psychological and social circumstances of the patient into account in the process of diagnosis and treatment.

Book Information

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concise, yet scholarly review of the importance of using a biopsychosocial approach in conceptualizing and treating mental illness." (American Journal of Psychiatry)

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Primary care practitioners who wish to be better at understanding their patients' emotional engines and how these interact with physical complaints will love this book. The late Dr Barbour worked as a consulting internist at Stanford Medical Center. Sometimes the solution to his patient's problem lay in a medical diagnosis no one else had considered, or it might lie in an emotional granny-knot undiscovered or unresolved. This book discusses the latter. Dr Barbour details the clues people give, the phrases that open up their thoughts, and the techniques he uses in various defined situations. The man clearly has a subtle and deep understanding of human psychology, but his book reads more like a mechanic's manual. For this I thank him profusely, because while primary care requires an understanding of physiology, psychiatry, all kinds of theories, etc, our patients benefit only from our actions. This book cries out to have its methods put into practice, and is written to make that possible. If I ever have to cull my medical library, this will be one of the last to go.

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