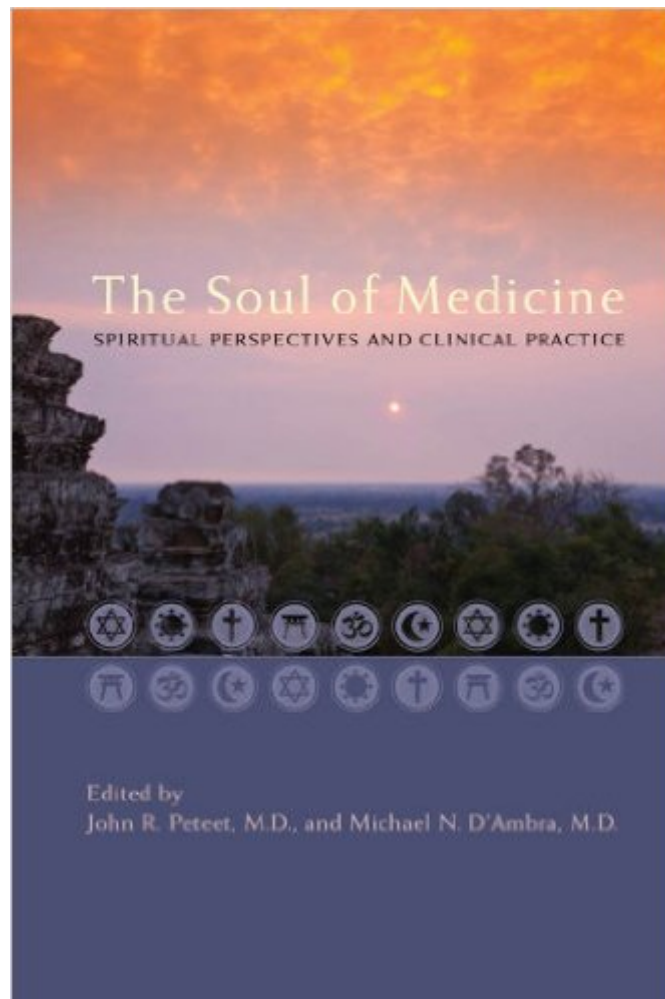


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# The Soul Of Medicine: Spiritual Perspectives And Clinical Practice



## Synopsis

To what extent should spiritual information be part of a patient's medical assessment? How should physicians respond when patients refuse life-saving care on religious grounds? Should doctors pray with their patients? Questions such as these raise deeper ones about the goals of medicine and the nature of healing. In a set of engaging and candid essays, *The Soul of Medicine* explores the role and influence of spirituality in clinical practice, professionalism, and medical education. The contributors to this volume approach this topic from their own spiritual perspectives? Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, New Age / Eclectic, secular, Jehovah's Witnesses, and Christian Scientist. Their thought-provoking essays provide rich insights not only into the needs of patients with various world views but also into how spirituality influences the practice of medicine. When their own spiritual issues arise in medical practice, physicians rely on their professionalism, ethics, and education. To better understand how various world views are incorporated into clinical work, doctors must ask themselves? as these contributors have? a series of important questions: What insights about life and healing does your faith provide? How does your faith challenge or reinforce contemporary medicine? How do you assess and address spirituality in clinical practice? How do your own beliefs influence your interactions with patients? *The Soul of Medicine* encourages medical students and practitioners to recognize the spiritual dimensions of medicine, to consider how these dimensions inform their own education and practice, and to be compassionate about their patients' and their own religious beliefs.

## Book Information

File Size: 1019 KB

Print Length: 273 pages

Publisher: Johns Hopkins University Press; 1 edition (October 28, 2011)

Publication Date: October 28, 2011

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00630Z9NY

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #953,799 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #93 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Medical eBooks > Administration & Policy > Practice Management & Reimbursement #120 in Books > Medical Books > Psychology > Medicine & Psychology #241 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Medical eBooks > Physician & Patient > Medical Ethics

## Customer Reviews

Outstanding and inspiring book. Every chapter is written by a doctor of a different faith about the importance of a spiritual approach to healing. Although written for medical schools, this is a great book for anyone to be sharing with their doctor if they want him to understand their desire to use less medication and more of a holistic approach to their health needs.

It was interesting to read the trend by many physicians towards the spiritual side of medicine. The writers have impressive education and backgrounds including a chapter on the Christian Science view. The book was edited by two physicians from the Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA.

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