

SICKNESS

Disease, Excess, Madness, Medicine and Physicians

1. ESSENCE

- 4249 Everything in excess is opposed to nature.
Hippocrates (B.C. 460-370)
- 4250 A physician is nothing but a consoler of the mind.
Petronius (died 66 A.D.)
- 4251 The art of medicine consists of amusing the patient while
nature cures the disease.
Voltaire (1694-1778)
- 4252 Madness is to think of too many things in succession too
fast, or of one thing too exclusively.
Voltaire (1694-1778)
- 4253 Disease is the retribution of outraged Nature.
Hosea Ballou (1771-1852)
- 4254 Disease is an experience of so-called mortal mind.
It is fear made manifest on the body.
Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910)

2. OPPOSITES

- 4255 Physicians are many in title but very few in reality.
Hippocrates (B.C. 460-370)
- 4256 Excess generally causes reaction and produces a change in
the opposite direction, whether it be in the seasons,
or in individuals, or in government.
Plato (B.C. 427?-347?)
- 4257 Men worry over the great number of diseases, while doctors
worry over the scarcity of effective remedies.
Pien Ch'iao (fl. B.C. 255)
- 4258 Some remedies are worse than the disease.
Publilius Syrus (fl. B.C. 42)
- 4259 By medicine life may be prolonged, yet death
Will seize the doctor too.
Shakespeare (1564-1616)
- 4260 The madman who knows that he is mad is close to sanity.
Ruiz de Alarcon (1581-1639)

- 4261 He who cures a disease may be the skillfullest,
but he that prevents it is the safest physician.
Thomas Fuller (1608-1661) 2 of 8
- 4262 Great wits are sure to madness near allied
And thin partitions do their bounds divide.
Dryden (1631-1700)
- 4263 Medicine is a science of uncertainty
and an art of probability.
William Osler (1849-1919)
- 4264 Before thirty, men seek disease;
after thirty, disease seeks men.
Chinese Proverb

3. INSIGHT

- 4265 Misdirected life force is the activity in disease process.
Disease has no energy save what it borrows from the life
of the organism. It is by adjusting the life force that
healing must be brought about, and it is the sun as
transformer and distributor of primal spiritual energy
that must be utilized in this process, for life and the
sun are so intimately connected.
Kabbalah (B.C. 1200?-700? A.D.)
- 4266 To know that you do not know is the best.
To pretend to know when you do not know is a disease.
Only when one recognizes this disease as a disease
Can one be free from the disease.
The sage is free from the disease.
Because he recognized this disease to be disease,
He is free from it.
Lao-Tzu (fl. B.C. 600)
- 4267 Medicine is an art, and attends to the nature and
constitution of the patient, and has principles of action
and reason in each case.
Plato (B.C. 427?-347?)
- 4268 Most men are within a finger's breadth of being mad.
Diogenes (B.C. 412-323)
- 4269 Sickness seizes the body from bad ventilation.
Ovid (B.C. 43-18 A.D.)
- 4270 Medicine is not only a science; it is also an art. It does
not consist of compounding pills and plasters; it deals
with the very processes of life, which must be understood
before they may be guided.
Paracelsus (1493-1541)

- 4271 The poets did well to conjoin music and medicine, because
the office of medicine is but to tune the curious harp of
man's body.
Bacon (1561-1626)
- 4272 In sickness the soul begins to dress herself for
immortality. And first she unties the strings of vanity
that make her upper garments cleave to the world and
sit uneasy.
Jeremy Taylor (1613-1667)
- 4273 As long as men are liable to die and are desirous to live,
a physician will be made fun of, but he will be well paid.
La Bruyere (1645-1696)
- 4274 The canker which the trunk conceals is revealed by the
leaves, the fruit, or the flower.
Metastasio (1698-1782)
- 4275 He's the best physician that knows the worthlessness of the
most medicines.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 4276 It is with disease of the mind, as with those of the body;
we are half dead before we understand our disorder,
and half cured when we do.
Colton (1780-1832)
- 4277 There can be no excess to love, none to knowledge, none to
beauty, when these attributes are considered in the purest
sense.
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 4278 A bodily disease which we look upon as whole and entire
within itself, may, after all, be but a symptom of some
ailment in the spiritual part.
Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)
- 4279 To array a man's will against his sickness is the supreme
art of medicine.
Beecher (1813-1878)
- 4280 Variability is the law of life, and as no two faces are the
same, so no two bodies are alike, and no two individuals
react alike and behave alike under the abnormal conditions
which we know as disease.
William Osler (1849-1919)

- 4281 The superior doctor prevents sickness;
The mediocre doctor attends to impending sickness;
The inferior doctor treats actual sickness.

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Chinese Proverb

4. POSITIVE

- 4282 One gets into situations in life from which it is necessary to be a little mad to extricate oneself successfully.
La Rochefoucauld (1613-1680)
- 4283 The feeling of health is acquired only through sickness.
Georg Lichtenberg (1742-1799)
- 4284 I have learned much from disease which life could have never taught me anywhere else.
Goethe (1749-1832)
- 4285 It is in sickness that we most feel the need of that sympathy which shows how much we are dependent upon one another for our comfort, and even necessities. Thus disease, opening our eyes to the realities of life, is an indirect blessing.
Hosea Ballou (1771-1852)
- 4286 A little madness in the Spring
Is wholesome even for the King.
Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)
- 4287 I reckon being ill as one of the great pleasures of life, provided one is not too ill and is not obliged to work till one is better.
Samuel Butler (1835-1902)

5. NEGATIVE

- 4288 We cannot employ the mind to advantage when we are filled with excessive food and drink.
Cicero (B.C. 106-43)
- 4289 The body oppressed by excesses, bears down the mind, and depresses to the earth any portion of the divine Spirit we had been endowed with.
Horace (B.C. 65-8)
- 4290 All actions beyond the ordinary limits are subject to a sinister interpretation.
Montaigne (1533-1592)

- 4291 Too much noise deafens us; too much light blinds us; too great a distance, or too much of proximity equally prevents us from being able to see; too long or too short a discourse obscures our knowledge of a subject; too much of truth stuns us.
Pascal (1623-1662)
- 4292 Doctors prescribe medicine of which they know little to cure diseases of which they know less in human beings of which they know nothing.
Voltaire (1694-1778)
- 4293 The mental disease of the present generation is impatience of study, contempt of the great masters of ancient wisdom, and a disposition to rely wholly upon unassisted genius and natural sagacity.
Johnson (1709-1784)
- 4294 That dire disease, whose ruthless power
Withers the beauty's transient flower.
Goldsmith (1728-1774)
- 4295 The excesses of our youth are drafts upon our old age,
payable with interest, about thirty years after the date.
Colton (1780-1832)
- 4296 Gluttony is the source of all our infirmities and the fountain of all our diseases. As a lamp is choked by a superabundance of oil, and a fire extinguished by excess of fuel, so is the natural health of the body destroyed by intemperate diet.
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 4297 Excess always carries its own retribution.
Ouida (1839-1908)
- 4298 In individuals, insanity is rare, but in groups, parties, nations and epochs it is the rule.
Nietzsche (1844-1900)
- 4299 The modern sympathy with invalids is morbid. Illness of any kind is hardly a thing to be encouraged in others.
Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)
- 4300 For three things there is no remedy:
Poverty associated with laziness,
sickness coupled with old age,
and enmity mixed with envy.
Chinese Proverb

6. ADVICE

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- 4301 This I consider to be a valuable principle in life:
Do no thing in excess.
Terence (B.C. 185-159)
- 4302 The best medicine is the abandonment of desires.
'Ali (600-661 A. D.)
- 4303 Prevention is better than cure.
Erasmus (1466-1536)
- 4304 Once a disease has entered the body, all parts which are healthy must fight it: not one alone, but all. Because a disease might mean their common death. Nature knows this; and Nature attacks the disease with whatever help she can muster.
Paracelsus (1493-1541)
- 4305 Against diseases here the strongest fence,
Is the defensive virtue, abstinence.
Robert Herrick (1591-1674)
- 4306 The best of all medicines are rest and fasting.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 4307 Sickness is a belief, which must be annihilated by the divine Mind.
Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910)
- 4308 Nine-tenths of our sickness can be prevented by right thinking plus right hygiene - nine-tenths of it!
Henry Miller (1891-1980)
- 4309 To stop drinking...
Study a drunkard while you are sober.
Chinese Proverb

7. POTPOURRI

- 4310 Among creatures some lead and some follow.
Some blow hot and some blow cold.
Some are strong and some are weak.
Some may break and some may fall.
Therefore the sage discards the extremes,
the extravagant, and the excessive.
Lao-Tzu (fl. B.C. 600)
- 4311 Extreme remedies are very appropriate for extreme diseases.
Hippocrates (B.C. 460-370)

- 4312 Lately was Diaulus a doctor, now he is an undertaker,
What the undertaker now does the doctor too did before.
Martial (43-104 A.D.)
- 4313 Better to hunt in fields for health unbought,
Than fee the doctor for a nauseous draught.
The wise for cure on exercise depend;
God never made his work for man to mend.
Dryden (1631-1700)
- 4314 Tell your doctor, that y'are ill
And what does he, but write a bill,
Of which you need not read one letter,
The worse the scrawl, the dose the better.
For if you knew but what you take,
Though you recover, he must break.
Matthew Prior (1664-1721)
- 4315 "Is there no hope?" the sick man said,
The silent doctor shook his head,
And took his leave with signs of sorrow,
Despairing of his fee to-morrow.
Gay (1688-1732)
- 4316 But nothing is more estimable than a physician who, having
studied nature from his youth, knows the properties of the
human body, the diseases which assail it, the remedies which
will benefit it, exercises his art with caution, and pays
equal attention to the rich and the poor.
Voltaire (1694-1778)
- 4317 I know of nothing more laughable than a doctor who does not
die of old age.
Voltaire (1694-1778)
- 4318 God heals, and the doctor takes the fee.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 4319 The best doctor is the one you run for and can't find.
Denis Diderot (1713-1784)
- 4320 But when ill indeed,
Even dismissing the doctor don't always succeed.
George Colman (1762-1836)
- 4321 Physicians mend or end us;
but though in health we sneer,
when sick we call them to attend us,
without the least propensity to jeer.
Byron (1788-1824)

- 4322 Some maladies are rich and precious and only to be acquired by the right of inheritance or purchased with gold.
Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)
- 4323 The universal medicine for the Soul is the Supreme Reason and Absolute Justice; for the mind, mathematical and practical Truth; for the body, the Quintessence, a combination of light and gold.
Albert Pike (1809-1891)
- 4324 Today I felt pass over me
A breath of wind from the wings of madness.
Baudelaire (1821-1867)
- 4325 Physician - One upon whom we set our hopes when ill and our dogs when well.
Ambrose Bierce (1842-1914?)
- 4326 If the doctor cures, the sun see it;
but if he kills, the earth hides it.
Scottish Proverb