

APPENDIX 1

The Oath of hippocrates

“ I swear by Apollo, the physician and Æsculapius, and Hygeia, and Panacea, and all the gods and all the goddesses- and I make them my judges-that this mine oath and this my written engagement I will fulfill as far as power and discernment shall be mine.

“ Him who taught me this art I will esteem even as I do my parents; He shall partake of my livelihood, and, if in want, shall share my goods. I will regard his issue as my brother's and will teach them this art without fee or written engagement if they shall wish to learn it.

“ I will give instruction by percept, by discourse, and in all other ways to my own sons, to those of him who taught me, to disciples bound by written engagements and sworn according to medical law, and to no other person. So far as power and discernment shall be mine, I will carry out regiment for the sick and will keep them from harm, and wrong. To none will I give a deadly drug, even if solicited, nor offer counsel to such an end; likewise to no women will I give a destructive suppository; but guiltless and hallowed will I keep my life and mine art. I will cut no one whatever for the stone, but will give way to those who work at this practice.

“ Into whatsoever houses I shall enter, I shall go for the benefit of the sick, holding aloof from all voluntary wrong and corruption, including venereal acts upon the bodies of the females and the males, whether free or slaves. Whatsoever in my practice or not in my practice I shall see or hear amid the lives of men which ought not be noised abroad- as to this I will keep silence, holding such things unfitting to be spoken.

“ And now if I shall fulfill this oath and break it not, may the fruits of life and art be mine, may I be honored of all men for all time, the opposite if I shall transgress or be forsworn.”