

Who Are the Quacks Anyways?

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"Here Ye, Here Ye! Snake oil for sale. Cures all of your aches and pains while being harmless and carries no side effects."

This chant might have been common in small towns and growing cities some hundred and fifty years ago. The charlatan would arrive in town somewhat like the bread man or the circus in modern times, carrying with him all of his potions and elixirs. These remedies might have been reported to cure anything from scurvy to snakebite. Without due diligence to know exactly what was in these elixirs it is impossible to determine if they were effective or not. Not the less, a person of this caliber was often referred to as a "snake oil salesman" or "quack" who only sold promises but no real cure.

However, up until the turn of the Twentieth Century natural healing was on par with scientific Western medicine. Herbalists osteopaths, homeopaths and even chiropractors were common as well as other natural practitioners. The *Popular Health Movement* made treating illness very local and very natural. An illness might be treated with herbs, nutrition, saunas and detoxing. Scientific Western medicine was just coming into power and influence and was seen as an equal player in the health chapter.

Subtle shifts began to occur at the turn of the Twentieth Century. Western medicine based on scientific principles began to rise and subjugate natural healing models. Through the evolution of modern medicine over the course of the last hundred and fifty years or so, natural healing procedures and practitioners have very much been run over by the scientific mainstream locomotive. What was once a respect for natural methods soon turned into a war against these natural practitioners. Those who were practicing natural medicine were now labeled as "quacks" by the vocal scientific medical community. Laws were enacted to try to curtail or eliminate natural healing practices in favor of the more profitable drug and surgery approach.

It was in 1909 that the nail was placed in the coffin for the equality of natural medicine. The Carnegie and Rockefeller Foundations sent Abraham Flexner around the country to observe what was happening in medical schools. Out of this trip came the Flexner Report of 1909 which began to demonize natural healing and favor the much more profitable drug and surgery approach to healing. Medicine shifted

from being a healing art into a technological science where money could be made.

That would be fine and dandy if it really worked though. With the strong reliance and investment in scientific technological medical treatments we are often led to believe that scientific medicine is superior to natural methods. Alarmingly, this is not always so. When examined carefully, the scientific medical model can be looked at as prehistoric, archaic and often extremely dangerous. Many years from now Western scientific medicine and medical doctors might be labeled as "quacks" when you examine the facts and statistics.

As we investigate the history of medicine we might cringe at some of the treatments of the past. These treatments included some of the following: leeches and blood letting, lobotomies, electric shock therapy, mercury for wounds, heroin cough syrup and crocodile dung as a contraceptive. However, a hundred years from now we might look back at this current era and think the same thing when you consider some of today's common medical treatments like mammograms, chemotherapy and radiation. Imagine if men had to put their testicles in a vice like women have to do with mammograms and then shoot them with radiation. If this were the case mammograms would have been eliminated a long time ago.

Scientific Western medicine claims to be saving lives but it is also taking many lives at the same time. Imagine if you had a family of five and were told that you could save three family members but the other two had to die. This is how scientific Western medicine works. We are told that in order to be cured we might also die from the medical procedure. We all seem to agree to that contract without questioning it.

Scientific medicine is filled with side effects that injure or kill patients. Examine an advertisement for a drug and you will see a long list in fine print of the potential side effects that is included in the drug prescription or over the counter product. Watch any drug advertisement on television and within a sixty second commercial you will find ten seconds of advertisement for the drug telling you how wonderful it is followed by fifty seconds explaining why you should not take this drug because of its potential side effects.

Natural medicine has little to no side effects. You can use natural alternatives for many of the same issues that a drug would be used for and suffer no side effects. In fact, each year there are thousands of deaths from prescribed drug use and nearly no deaths from natural formulas like herbs or homeopathic remedies. Most people around the globe use natural methods safely instead of using drugs with side effects. Americans comprise only 5% of the world's population yet consume over 50% of the world's drugs. Occasionally a natural product like St. John's Wort or Ginko Biloba will interact with a prescribed drug and cause an injury or death. Scientific medicine and

the mainstream media will normally blame the herb rather than the prescribed drug for the death.

In fact, over 106,000 Americans die each year from the proper use of prescription drugs. This is just the proper use and not counting the drug mistakes and errors of improper use. The deaths from drug use are enormous when you include the medical drug errors that occur when a patient is given the wrong dose of a drug, the wrong drug, drug interactions with alcohol or other prescription drugs along with the side effects from over the counter medications. Add in the deaths from illegal street drugs and now you have a major epidemic.

It has been reported that over 16,000 Americans die each year just from taking one NSAID (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug) (aspirin, ibuprofen, Advil, Aleve). You might rush into a drug store to pick up something for a sinus headache and you might be dead within the hour from an allergic reaction that closes your airway preventing you from breathing. Another 500 Americans die each year just from taking one single acetaminophen tablet. Aspirin by itself will kill at least 500 Americans annually.

Gary Null, a noted and respected natural health advocate, conducted an extensive study called *Death by Medicine*. In this study it was concluded that an astonishing 783,936 Americans die each year due to conventional Western scientific medicine and medical doctors. This would make "death by medicine" the leading cause of death in the United States surpassing heart disease and cancer. (According to the American Medical Association itself, medical mistakes are the third leading cause of death in America behind heart disease and cancer.)

For instance, medical errors by physicians and nurses account for over 83,000 deaths each year. Most people do not hear about all of these deaths due to the "white code of silence." Hospital staff are all watching each others' backs and will seldom report errors or negligence. Nearly 200,000 Americans will die in outpatient centers like liposuction or kidney dialysis. For instance, noted comedienne Joan Rivers died at an outpatient center during a routine operation on her vocal cords. This is more common than one might think.

Over 105,000 patients die each year just from the infections that they catch while in the hospital. Much of these are staph infections. Doctors and nurses are not routinely washing their hands before and after seeing each patient. Infections are being transported from patient to patient by contact with the staff. In addition, hospitals are a filthy environment. Medical equipment used on patients is not routinely cleaned and sanitized. A doctor using a stethoscope on a patient with an open wound will routinely use the same infected stethoscope on his next patient. From bed gurneys to medical apparatus, infections are waiting for you when you enter into a hospital. The longer you have to stay in a hospital the greater chance of becoming infected.

In a system designed for profit, many procedures given to patients are only effective in running up their medical bills and not doing much in regard to healing. In a study conducted by the Mayo Clinic from 2001-2010 and published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, nearly forty percent of the medical treatments performed were ineffective or a waste of time. There were 363 procedures considered and 146 had no significant effect.

The scientific medical world relies on agencies like the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) for its assurance of safety and effectiveness. The FDA approves of and administers the use of drugs. However, medical doctors do not have to follow the guidelines of what drugs are approved for. A drug might be tested and approved of as a high blood pressure drug but a medical doctor might decide to prescribe it as an antidepressant for a patient, even though it was never approved of as an antidepressant. Over 4 billion prescriptions are written to Americans each year and 600 thousand of them are written for "off-label" prescriptions that were never approved of and no clinical trials had ever taken place. In America it is legal to prescribe a drug that was never tested and approved for that purpose. Does this not sound like "quackery?"

In addition, the FDA is regarded as the holy grail of approval for new drugs. "*FDA Approved*" is said to carry tremendous weight. Yet many drugs and food products have been approved even though the science failed to indicate that they were safe. For instance, artificial sweeteners like Aspartame can be found in over 6000 food products and was approved by the FDA in 1981, despite the fact that it continued to fail all the scientific scrutiny placed on it for safety. Found in foods like NutraSweet, Canderel, Nutra Taste, Benevia, Equal, Spoonful, Equal Measure and AminoSweet, Aspartame was approved as being safe and effective only because of political pressure.

When Ronald Reagan became president a favor was owed to Donald Rumsfeld, then CEO of G.D. Searle Company, the makers of Aspartame. President Reagan order the head of the FDA to find a way to bypass all of the scientific scrutiny and approve the artificial sweetener. Western scientific medicine uses the FDA to insure the safety of products and this agency's agenda can certainly be scrutinized.

The drug Vioxx was approved by the FDA as being safe and effective and doctors were prescribing it in record numbers for patients with arthritic joint pain. Before its recall nearly 60,000 Americans are estimated to have died as a direct result of taking Vioxx. It turns out that the scientific data was blatantly falsified and it was never really a safe drug. Just because something has passed a clinical trial does not necessarily mean that it is safe to use.

Just because a product is FDA approved does not make it safe or effective either. Some believe that the true purpose of the FDA is to

protect the profits of the drug and food industry. Many times drugs or food products remain inherently dangerous but due to politics or money they are ruled as being safe to consumers.

One would think that Western scientific medicine would be open minded to new healing possibilities. Not so. Western scientific medicine is controlled by a cartel of several entities including the AMA (American Medical Association), NIH (National Institution for Health), FDA (Food and Drug Administration), the drug industry, the Federal Government, biotech companies, university research facilities, charities, the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and state medical boards. For instance, nutrition and food have never been approved as medicine and cannot be legally allowed to cure patients of any disease. If nutrition were approved as medicine one would see the large profits from drug sales to be diminished. The cartel would never allow that.

These agencies will criminalize the use of food for healing, even though many other countries around the world use food to heal with great success. Not to mention that 94% of medical doctors leave medical school without ever taking a nutrition class and the ones who do take a nutrition class do so only as an elective and not as a required course. Based on their medical school training, one can see why the Western medical world might be filled with a bunch of quacks.

It is not always the doctor's fault though. These regimented associations will not allow medical doctors to prescribe a nutrition protocol to heal disease. A doctor could be sanctioned or have his medical license removed by a state board if he uses nutrition to heal a patient.

There are many natural antibiotics that include honey, colloidal silver, garlic, onion, turmeric, tea tree oil, oregano oil, olive leaf extract and ginger. While wildly used out side of the United States and very effective to treat bacterial infections without any side effects, these natural remedies are not approved to be used by medical doctors. Instead, the American population has been besieged by the medical creation of antibiotics that have only weekend our immune systems over time. Our bodies are becoming more and more resistant to antibiotics and these drugs are becoming useless. After all, antibiotics have been poured into farm animal feed and fish food so that when you are eating these animals you are getting another solid dose of antibiotics as well. Due to antibiotic overload many people suffer from gut disturbances because their bodies have wiped out all of the beneficial bacteria and they have a difficult time digesting food.

The CDC (Center for Disease Control) has insisted that the only way to protect the population from deadly diseases is to maximize vaccines, despite most other countries being successful without vaccines. It comes as no surprise that there are strong links between the CDC and the drug industry, the manufacturers of vaccines. One

would think that if vaccines were such a safe product that there would be little to no side effects. This is not so.

Millions of people are plagued each year with mild to severe side effects from vaccine injections. Thousands of people will endure permanent injury from vaccines while hundreds have been killed by vaccines. In fact, a deal was struck between Congress and the drug industry that gave the drug industry immunity from any prosecution from the injury or death from vaccines. A vaccine court was set up by the United States Congress that has already paid out over 3.5 billion dollars in injury awards to people whose loved ones have been injured or killed by vaccines. Despite the fact that there are many natural ways to ensure the health and safety of the nation without vaccines (like breast feeding a young child which provides a natural immunity response), the government and medical doctors insist on forcing vaccines on its citizens. Can you say "Follow the money trail!"

If you just took one vaccine, the Gardasil HPV vaccine, touted as an anti cervical cancer drug for young girls, you would be alarmed at the results. At least ten percent of the young women receiving this vaccine will be in the emergency room within thirty days of getting the shot. To date, at least 32 young teenage girls have died because of the Gardasil vaccine. We do not have an epidemic of cervical cancer but we do have an epidemic of small minded medical personnel who refuse to admit the dangers of all vaccines.

When it comes to breast cancer and mammograms we ought to be ashamed of ourselves. We do know that radiation emitted into the human body produces cancer. Someone had a brilliant idea to shoot radiation into a women's breast to try to detect breast cancer. According to the *British Medical Journal (December 2011)*, mammograms might be causing more harm than what they might be preventing, especially for younger women. There are more natural breast cancer screening tests available like thermo grams, where heat is used to detect an abnormality. These are seldom used. Think of all the money to be lost if mammograms went away.

There is an abundance of natural treatments for cancer but the governing bodies (FDA, CDC) will not allow them. The cartel of medicine would be out of business if people knew that they could cure their own cancer at home in a short time with such things as ozone therapy, juice fasting, essential oils like frankincense and myrrh, apricot pits (laetrile), alkalizing diet, baking soda and hydrogen peroxide. Instead, most people are led to believe that they must attack their body with chemotherapy and radiation (along with surgery) and have a professional oncologists be their health captain. The fact that nearly 40% of cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy and radiation will be dead within five years is alarming, especially when you consider the fact that there are many natural cures that the medical cartel will not approve of that can cure cancer once and for all.

Amazingly, a poll was taken of oncologist asking if they themselves would under go chemotherapy if they developed cancer. Surprisingly, 75% of oncologists said that they would refuse chemotherapy because of the damaging effects on the body and its low success rate. Yet we routinely keep pumping dangerous poisons into sick people and call it healing.

Over 300,000 people become infected with Lyme disease each year in the United States yet the CDC still will not call this an epidemic. Instead, the medical establishment refers to Lyme disease as a routine illness that can be cured with heavy doses of antibiotics. Speak with anyone who has Lyme disease and they will tell you that this is not a simple illness like the common cold but a very debilitating and frequently deadly disease. Yet insurance companies refuse to pay for the long term care for patients and despite many natural cures for Lyme disease the medical establishment will not come to terms with it.

We are often scared by the CDC about such rare illnesses like Ebola or Bird Flu. We are told that the next pandemic is just around the corner and we should all be terrified because there is no cure. Government officials and drug company executives scramble around trying to convince the public that massive vaccine injections are the only true method to prevent the next pandemic. There could be nothing further from the truth. Natural products like colloidal silver, homeopathy and ozone therapy are very effective in preventing and curing disease, including Ebola and Bird Flu. The medical establishment refuses to utilize these natural products because it might put the drug companies out of business. The FDA and the CDC have a very cozy relationship with the drug industry and any product or treatment that would create a loss of income for the drug companies is disallowed by these two regulatory government bodies. Follow the money trail.

Medical eye doctors (optometrists and ophthalmologists) will most frequently tell you that there is no cure for distorted vision and the only choice is to wear glasses for the rest of your life. Once again, another false and inaccurate statement. There are many natural solutions for healing poor vision. Wearing eye glasses has never cured anyone from distorted vision, only making matters worse. If medical eye doctors told you that there were natural solutions to curing poor vision then they would be out of business. Once again, follow the money trail.

As long as we are following the money trail we might mention back doctors and back surgeries. Million of Americans suffer from painful back problems and many of those will ultimately undergo a back surgery. Many will have to endure multiple surgeries. There are many natural approaches to curing back pain (Yoga, movement therapy, massage, bodywork) yet these modalities are seldom prescribed. Back surgeries, while having dubious results, make an enormous amount

of money for medical doctors while natural solutions would put a doctor out of work. Back surgery should be your last option and not your first choice.

The number one surgery each year in America is gall bladder surgery. Despite the fact that such natural products like herbs, lemon juice or olive oil have shown to be very effective in bringing balance back to the gall bladder, an astonishing 600,000 gall bladder removal surgeries are still performed each year.

Medical doctors have tried to steer us away from natural solutions for many years now, often with dire consequences. We were told by doctors to avoid eating butter (a natural fat) and instead to eat margarine (a plastic fat called a hydrogenated oil). Nowadays it is nearly impossible to find margarine in a store or restaurant because the truth has finally come out about how dangerous this product is. Apple cider vinegar is a natural solution to indigestion issues but is not prescribed by medical doctors. Instead, a patient is given a prescription for a purple pill. From the 1920's through the 1950's doctors were major advertisers and promoters of smoking. While the promotion of smoking is no longer fashionable medical doctors and the medical establishment often are still on the wrong side of healing.

Don't be surprised to learn that the snake oil salesman in town is your own oncologists, pediatrician or heart doctor. While it might be harsh for some to recognize, when you look at the number of people dying at the hands of Western scientific medicine and medical doctors, one must surely have to ask, "Who are the quacks anyways?" With so much propaganda in favor of scientific medicine most people have been convinced in its almighty power and effectiveness. These folks might want to reconsider this way of thinking. When you pick up your next prescription at the pharmacy you might really be getting a bag of snake oil in a bottle.

Resources

Gary Null, Death by Medicine

<http://www.webdc.com/pdfs/deathbymedicine.pdf>

Mayo Clinic Proceedings

<http://www.beckersspine.com/spine/item/16797-study-identifies-abundance-of-ineffective-medical-procedures>

Aspartame

<http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2011/08/03/just-how-bad-is-aspartame.aspx>

Vioxx

<http://www.outsourcing-pharma.com/Preclinical-Research/Whistleblowers-reveal-FDA-exacerbated-Vioxx-scandal>

Breast cancer

<http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/03/03/experts-say-avoid-mammograms.aspx>

Thermo grams

<http://www.drnorthrup.com/best-breast-test/>

Cancer doctors refuse chemotherapy on themselves

http://www.naturalnews.com/036054_chemotherapy_physicians_toxicity.html

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