

# THE HIPPOCRATIC OATH



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# Hippocratic Oath

- ▶ The **Hippocratic Oath** is an oath historically taken by Physicians and other healthcare professionals swearing to practice medicine honestly. It is widely believed to have been written by **Hippocrates**, often regarded as the father of western medicine, or by one of his students. The oath is written in Ionic Greek at late 5th century BC. the oath is considered a rite of passage for practitioners of medicine in many countries, although nowadays the modernized version of the text varies among them.

The Hippocratic Oath is one of the most widely known of Greek medical texts. It requires a new physician to swear upon a number of healing gods that he will uphold a number of professional ethical standards.







# OATH OF HIPPOCRATES

By BEDOVICE


I SWEAR BY APOLLO EMBODIMENT OF KNOWLEDGE  
AND HYGIEA AND PANACEA AND ALL THE  
GODS AND GODDESSES, MAKING THEM MY  
WITNESSES, THAT I WILL FULFILL ACCORDING  
TO MY ABILITY AND JUDGMENT THE OATH  
AND THE COVENANT  
TO HOLD HIM WHO HAS TAUGHT ME THIS  
ART AS EQUAL TO MY PARENTS AND TO MY  
MY LEX IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THEM, TO GIVE  
IF IN NEED OF MONEY TO GIVE THEM  
OF HONOR AND TO REPAIR THEM  
EQUALLY TO MY BROTHERS  
AND TO TEACH THEM  
EVERY TO LEARN IT  
GOVERNMENT TO GIVE  
AND OBEY IT

# Hippocratic Oath – Modern Version




Written in 1964 by Louis Lasagna, Academic Dean of the School of Medicine at Tufts University, and used in many medical schools today.




- ❖ I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment, this covenant:
  - ❖ I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps I walk, and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow.
  - ❖ I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures [that] are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and Therapeutic nihilism.
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- ❖ I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.
  - ❖ I will not be ashamed to say "I know not," nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient's recovery.
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- ❖ I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God.

- ❖ I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart, a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick.
  - ❖ I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure.
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- ❖ If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy life and art, respected while I live and remembered with affection thereafter. May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help.

# The Hippocratic Oath Summary





Respect your teachers.

Pledge your life to the service of others.

Place your patients interests before your own.

Protect your patients from harm & injustice.

Treat all patients equally.

Respect patient's right to make decisions.

Continue to improve the care you give.

Do not become intimate with patients.

Try to prevent as well as cure disease.

Protect your patients' confidentiality.

Impart your medical knowledge to others.

