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## **Role of History and Philosophy of Medicine in the Professional Formation of a Physician: Writings of Polish School of Philosophy of Medicine**

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Polish physicians-philosophers tried to find a compromise between medicine as a science and medicine as a healing art. They stated that clinical practice should be transformed into science, bearing in mind that there would be no medicine without the existence of the sick. A perfect physician is a good and wise person and not exclusively a proficient expert. Polish physicians exercised a science that they called philosophy of medicine. It included logic, psychology, and medical ethics. The Polish school claimed that the history of medicine and philosophy of medicine are necessary for future doctors. The historical and philosophical approach makes it possible to recognize the subject of medicine (health, disease, and the sick) and its aim (treatment, restoration of health or just alleviation of suffering). The ethics teaches what values are pursued by medicine, what moral duties a doctor has, and what role model to follow to become a good physician. Placing the sick in the focus of medical interest, the Polish school taught future physicians to see in them suffering fellow men who should be embraced with care, compassion, and Christian charity. Such an approach to the ethical aspect of medical philosophy became incorporated into an education towards humane values, responsibility for ones' life and health in the spirit of the ethics of care.

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