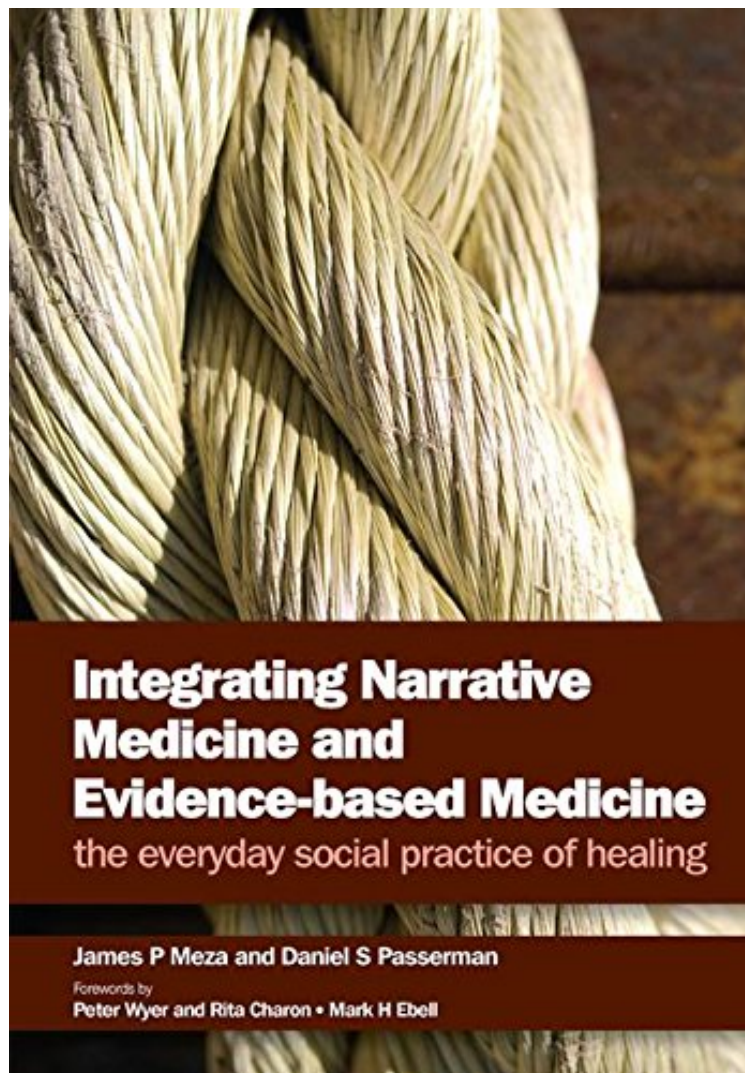


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Integrating Narrative Medicine and Evidence Based Medicine: The Everyday Social Practice of Healing

James P Meza, Daniel S Passerman

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Scientific, evidence-based medicine is increasingly seen as fundamental to providing effective healthcare, but narrative-based medicine sheds light on social and interpersonal aspects of the practitioner-patient interaction which can also greatly affect healthcare outcomes. The philosophies underlying these two approaches seem to contrast, yet those who can integrate both into their practice are among the most successful medical professionals. Integrating Narrative Medicine and Evidence-based Medicine provides answers to the key question of how medical practitioners can best put both approaches into practice. It anticipates a future where evidence-based practice will be expected of all medical professionals, but contends that the integration of a narrative-based approach will also be crucial, presenting a unique perspective on structuring the patient-professional encounter for optimum results. It develops a cultural analysis and socio-cultural theory of the science of healing, and describes an efficient method by which medical practitioners can find and use medical research at the point of care with current technology and skills. This addresses the need for translational science - moving research into practice - identified by the National Institutes of Health. This book will be essential reading for educators of medical students and postgraduate trainees, behavioral scientists, psychologists, social scientists working in medical settings, and health managers and administrators. Medical students and postgraduate trainees will also find it useful in their learning.

About the Authorpractitioner and Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Science, Wayne State University School of Medicine, and Course Director, Translational Medicine and Evidence-based Practice, USA; practitioner and instructor, Evidence Based Medicine, and Program Director, osteopathic family medicine residency, Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital and Clinical Assistant Professor, A.T.Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine.