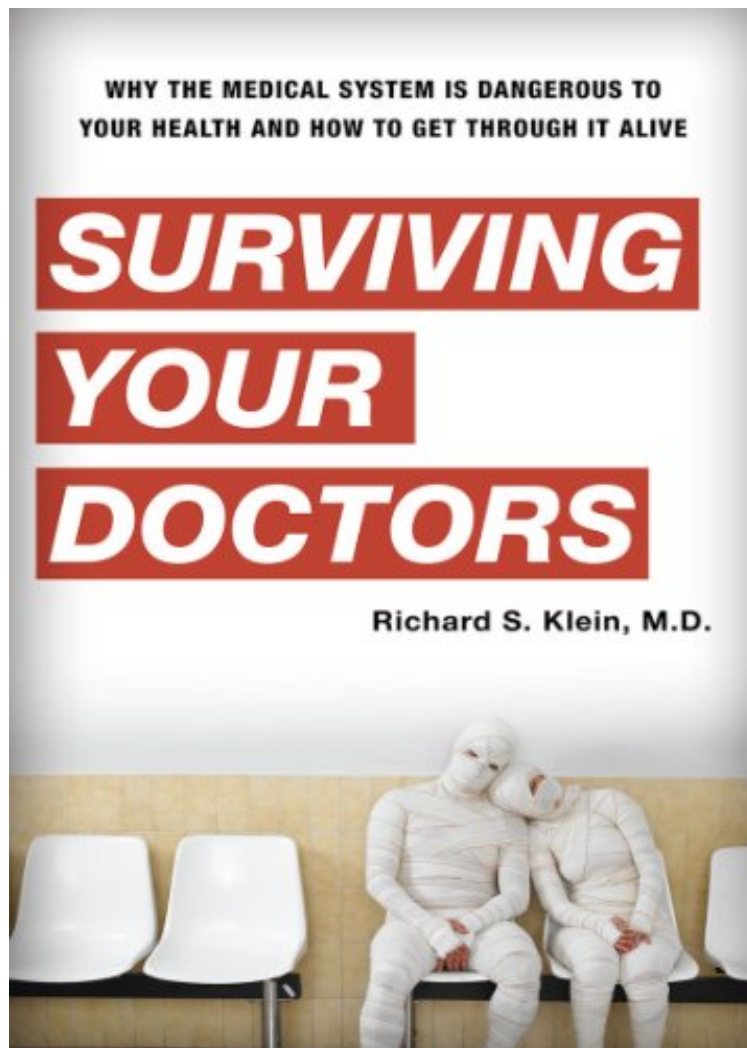


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Surviving Your Doctors: Why the Medical System is Dangerous to Your Health and How to Get Through it Alive

Richard S. Klein

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Richard S. Klein : Surviving Your Doctors: Why the Medical System is Dangerous to Your Health and How to Get Through it Alive before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Surviving Your Doctors: Why the Medical System is Dangerous to Your Health and How to Get Through it Alive:

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Surviving Your Doctors, with its in-depth explanations, guidance, and direction will be the basic training manual patients need to work their way through the health care maze. It serves as a map of the medical minefield, told from the perspective of a doctor yet designed to reveal the faults in the system and the things that can and do go wrong during the course of both routine and special procedures and office visits. Filled with real stories of medical mishaps, anecdotes, and checklists, this book will walk readers through major areas of the medical world - from the doctor's office to the pharmacy, from the laboratory to the ER - giving them a clearer picture of how things really work, what health care workers really think, and how to take back control of their health and the care they receive.

From Publishers Weekly With at least 100,000 hospital patients dying each year, associate professor and practicing internist Klein (*From Anecdote to Antidote*) calls medical malpractice in the U.S. a "pandemic," with mortality numbers comparable to "smoking, auto accidents, and pollution," placing the U.S. behind most of Europe, "including Poland and the Czech Republic." While Klein supports universal healthcare modeled on Medicare, he asserts that we'll need more: "substandard or negligent care have been swept under the rug" by the medical profession for too long. As such, he insists that the medical profession needs "medical courts governed by specialists in medical ethics and respected physicians" to analyze mistakes and discipline offenders. Further, patients and their families must be empowered to become part of the "treating team," researching their own symptoms whenever possible and demanding proper screening, blood work, and second opinions. Klein offers anecdotes and examples from his own career with internal and infectious medicine, as well as his experience as an expert witness in malpractice litigation, in this useful, though somewhat diffuse, resource. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From Booklist Klein is a practicing physician who has often testified as an expert witness in cases alleging medical malpractice. From his two perspectives, he offers an insightful look at all the things that can and often do go wrong in medicine, from doctors inducing infection to mix-ups in patient records and prescriptions. As Klein describes it, it's a wonder any of us makes it out of the doctor's office or hospital alive and well. Citing examples from his practice and several cases, he explores the weaknesses in medicine, from doctors' visits to hospital stays to treatments for major illnesses such as cancer. He offers harrowing stories of patients misdiagnosed for cancer, patients being given the wrong medication, and deaths caused by errors made by doctors who later changed medical records. His prescription: patients should be strong advocates for themselves, ask questions, do research, keep copies of test results, get second opinions, and maintain good health through exercise and nutrition and advocacy for physicians' report cards and online record keeping. A very valuable resource, particularly as the nation considers overhauling the health-care system. --Vanessa Bush

Bravo Dr. Richard Klein for exposing the dangers patients face due to negligent hospital and physician care. (Alfred DeBello, attorney and Former Yonkers mayor, Westchester County Executive, and New York State Lieutenant Governor) This is a courageous expose of negligent practices in his own profession and serves as an important guide for people in need of medical care. (Dee DeBello, CEO and Publisher, Westchester Business Publications)

Dr. Klein's book hits the nail on the head. The lack of quality care and the danger in many of our hospitals is a timely issue as our nation considers health care reform. It's important that everyone take control of their own health care and protect themselves against careless practitioners. His examples and advice on taking more control of one's own health care will go a long way to creating a better and safer system. (Andrew J. Spano, County Executive, Westchester County, NY)

Dr. Klein provides a practical and detailed analysis of what patients should know about the health care system, so they can become more informed health care consumers. (William H. Frishman M.D., New York Medical College and Westchester Medical Center) This passionate and smart book is by someone who both deeply understands how sick our health care system is and what the best remedies are to make it well. The state and country need more doctor-advocates like Richard Klein. (Mark Green, president, Air America Media, and Former NYC Public Advocate)

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medicine, as well as his experience as an expert witness in malpractice litigation, in this useful...resource. (Publishers Weekly 2009-11-01) Klein writes in a breezy, conversational style and includes personal stories that make it easy to understand the types of medical errors under discussion. Patients will appreciate the useful advice, and those interested in health-care policy reform will find timely information, too. (Library Journal, Starred 2009-11-01) *Surviving Your Doctors: Why the Medical System is Dangerous to Your Health and How to Get Through it Alive* describes details of various illnesses as well as what happens or can happen during an emergency room or doctor's office visit. There's plenty of information here that you won't find anywhere else. Dr. Klein tells us what we should know ahead of time and steps we should take to help insure the safety and health of our loved ones and ourselves.... This is a well written informative health book that should be on everyone's bookshelves. It might save your life. (Midwest Book 2010-04-01) This book is a timely and much-needed guide to getting the best care possible out of a flawed system, offering patients a prescription for maneuvering their way through the healthcare maze.... From emergency rooms to pharmacies; from surgery to doctor's office, this book reveals how things really work, what medical workers really think and how to take back control of your health and the care you receive. (The Sunday Republican 2010-02-01) The advice given to patients is appropriate. The central theme that patients need to do the work to keep themselves safe within the system deserves attention. (Family Medicine) Filled with real stories of medical mishaps, anecdotes and checklists, this book will walk readers through major areas of the medical world - from the doctor's office to the pharmacy, from the laboratory to the emergency room - giving them a clearer picture of how things really work, what health care workers really think, and how to take back control of your health and the care you receive. (Vicksburg Post)