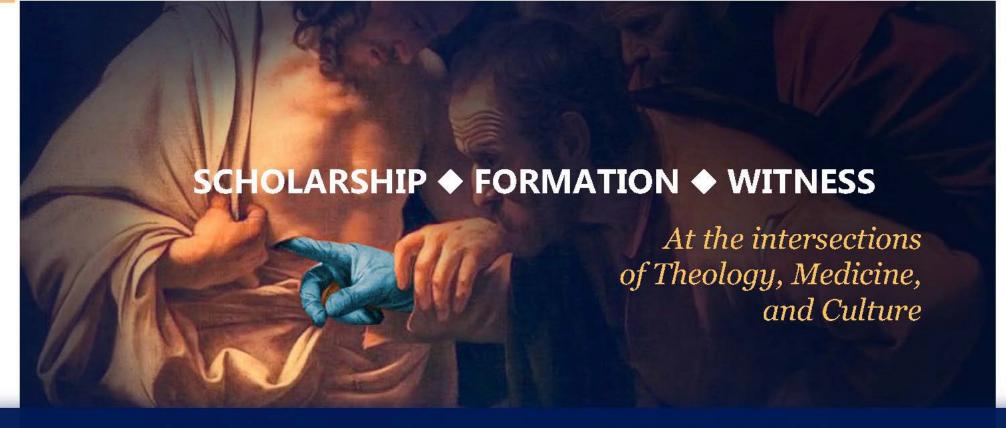
# Is there a Way of Medicine for Christians?



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Duke







# Interested in studying with TMC?

### CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGY AND HEALTH CARE (CTHC)

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You are looking for a program that is adaptable to your work schedule and local context, offering you study that is primarily online, but includes two one-week immersion experiences at Duke Divinity School.

Format Length hybrid, online one year

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The practice of **healing humans** 

**Preserving** and **restoring** the **health** of those who suffer injury or illness

Motivated by concern for the patient's health

Guided by the medical practitioner's expertise in **the ways of the body** 

#### **Accompanying Ethical Norms:**

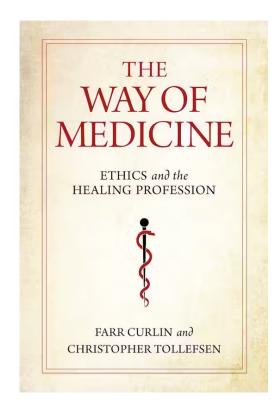
- do not act contrary to a patient's health
- do not let your concerns for your patients' health be subverted by prejudice, apathy, or self-interest
- give the attention, time, and energy needed to shape your life as a person devoted to restoring health

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#### The Way of Medicine

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#### **Provider of Services Model**

**Technical skills** used primarily in service of a patient's **autonomously chosen preferences and goals** 

... Where or not those preferences and goals detach from or even directly **contradict the patient's** health.

#### **Accompanying Ethical Norms:**

- do what satisfies the patient's wishes, so long as it:
  - is **legal**
  - effectively brings about the patient's goal
  - is **freely chosen** by the patient

#### **Provider of Services Model**

Technical skills used primarily in service of a patient's autonomously chosen preferences and goals

... even if those preferences and goals detach from or even directly contradict the patient's health.

# **Conscientious Objection**

#### & The Two Models

#### The Way of Medicine

Concientious Objection is...

refusing to act contrary to one's commitments as a physician

...based on the judgment that the intervention is not required or contradicts the patient's health

#### **Provider of Services Model**

Concientious Objection is...

the physician's **private** conscience **intruding** upon his or her **public** and **professional** practice

a **violation** of professional **boundaries** 

# Is there a Way of Medicine for Christians?



The first lesson of "The Oath Insofar as a Christian May Swear It" was that Christian ethics does not disown "natural" morality. The Christian story does not force those who own it to disown either medicine as a practice or human rationality.

Allan Verhey —

Act only insofar as your actions are consistent with a commitment to the patient's health.



The second lesson is that Christians concerned with medical ethics should have the integrity to set medicine in the context of the Christian story, to form, inform, and reform medicine . . . .

The task is to transform or, to put it less presumptuously, to qualify a rational ethic and a professional ethic by candid attention to the Christian story.

Allan Verhey

# The Way of Medicine for Christians



