What’s Wrong with Present-Day Medicine

Henry H. Bauer, hhbauer@vt.edu; updated 17 April 2017

This bibliography is not exhaustive but it is representative. It covers the salient points and is updated periodically. It lists only substantive, well documented items. Since later works usually reference earlier relevant ones, reading might start with David Healy’s comprehensive 2012 Pharmageddon. Carl Elliott’s White Coat, Black Hat offers insights by a bioethicist that are not duplicated in most other works. Greene’s Prescribing by Numbers is a key historical account. On psychiatry, Whitaker’s books are comprehensive and very readable, as is Greenberg’s 2013 Book of Woe. But there is also much worthwhile material in the other listed books, articles, reports, and links.

Medicine & Medical Science

(Stories of Cutthroat Competition and Psychiatry are listed separately below)

Angell, Marcia. The Truth About the Drug Companies: How They Deceive Us and What To Do About It. Random House, 2004
Deyo, Richard A. & Donald L. Patrick. Hope or Hype: The Obsession with Medical Advances and the High Cost of False Promises. AMACOM (American Management Association), 2005
Goldacre, Ben. Bad Pharma: How Drug Companies Mislead Doctors and Harm Patients. Faber & Faber, 2013
Hadler, Nortin M. The Last Well Person: How to Stay Well Despite the Health-Care System. McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2004
Inman, Bill. Don’t Tell the Patient: Behind the Drug Safety Net, Highland Park Productions, 1999
chiefly about UK)


Kauffman, Joel M. *Malignant Medical Myths: Why medical treatment causes 200,000 deaths in the USA each year, and how to protect yourself*. Infinity Publishing, 2006; ISBN 0-7414-2909-8


Millenson, Michael L. *Demanding Medical Excellence: Doctors and Accountability in the Information Age*. University of Chicago Press, 1997


Mundy, Alicia. *Dispensing with the Truth: The Victims, the Drug Companies, and the Dramatic Story behind the Battle over Fen-Phen*. St. Martin’s Press, 2001


Rodwin, Marc A. *Medicine, Money and Morals: Physicians’ Conflicts of Interest*. Oxford University Press, 1993


Welch, H. Gilbert, Lisa Schwartz, & Steve Woloshin. *Overdiagnosed: Making People Sick in the Pursuit

REPORTS

Evaluation of Biomarkers and Surrogate Endpoints in Chronic Disease. Institute of Medicine; Christine M. Micheel & John R. Ball, eds.; National Academies Press, 2010

WITHDRAWN UNSAFE OR INEFFECTIVE DRUGS


STORIES OF CUTTHROAT COMPETITION

Watson, James D. The Double Helix: A Personal Account of the Discovery of the Structure of DNA. Atheneum, 1968 (a very useful annotated edition including commentaries, reviews, and original articles was edited by Gunther Stent, W. W. Norton 1980)
PSYCHIATRY

Abraham, John, & Julie Sheppard. The Therapeutic Nightmare. Earthscan (UK), 1999
Diller, Lawrence H. Remembering Ritalin: A Doctor and Generation Rx Reflect on Life and Psychiatric Drugs. Perigee Trade, 2011
Healy, David. Let Them Eat Prozac: The Unhealthy Relationship Between the Pharmaceutical Industry and Depression. NYU Press, 2006
A VERY FEW SALIENT ARTICLES:

Bauer, Henry H. Clinical trials with surrogate outcomes have brought bad medicine(s). *Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons*, 19 (2014) 82-3
Ioannidis, John P. A. Contradicted and initially stronger effects in highly cited clinical research. *JAMA*, 294 (2005) 218-228
Ioannidis, John P. A. & Orestis A. Panagiotou. Comparison of effect sizes associated with biomarkers reported in highly cited individual articles and in subsequent meta-analyses. *JAMA*, 305 (2011) 2200-10