Chapter 5

ON PSYCHO-SOCIAL DIMENSION OF PATIENT-PHYSICIAN RELATIONS: PROF. TAYFUN DALBASTI SAMPLE

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INTRODUCTION

The phenomenons of disease and health that we can not consider separately from human existence have always been important both in conceptual platform and concrete reality from the beginning of human history to present. However, as much as the meanings attributed to the concept of health and disease, it is not possible to reach a general approach on the perception of disease and health. As a matter of fact, significant changes and transformations have been experienced in the meanings attributed to disease and health concepts depending on the scientific, technological, social, economic, and cultural changes experienced in the historical process. In addition, there has been significant changes and transformations in the perception of disease and health, both individually and socially.

In the early ages, diseases were attributed to supernatural powers and were often dealt with in a metaphysical context, the causes and the treatment of diseases have been sought for centuries over the body of the patient. In later periods, philosophical physicians who tried to find the causes of diseases based on logic have produced various assumptions. The change in theories of Medicine, which is limited to reasoning, is only possible through experiment-based Medical science studies (Sarı, 2007, p. 18). This period refers to the period from the 17th century and onwards. The mental atmosphere created by the idea of enlightenment has caused the scientific developments to accelerate with this period. Medical knowledge which has lost its traditional features mostly has been at the forefront of areas where these developments are experienced.

In this process, the metaphors of disease which are evaluated in a religious framework and sent to the concepts of evil and sin have been weakened, the physician has lost religious qualifications and became interested in the physical

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problems largely is attributed to the patient. The problems expressed from the perspective of the physician are also expressed by the patients, but the system and the patient's expectations are criticized more. In all dimensions of the patient-physician relationship, the physician appears to be in a decisive position. Physicians' work load, medical terminology used by physicians, indifference of physicians, some physicians' ambition of money, are expressed as the current problems. On the other hand, patient's can not to express him/her self sufficiently, expect miracles from the physician, not be able to make empathy are criticized.

Patients want to trust the physicians, and to give the control of the relationship to them in all short or long-term treatments. Patients are not only expecting treatment but also psychological support. In this respect, the patient-physician relationship is not only related to medical care and health care; at the same time, it is considered as a multidimensional relationship in which humanistic and emotional expectations are met.

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