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# News

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\*\*\*\*\*Physician/researcher provides  
medical reference guide for the  
"non-physician."

DALLAS--Patients complain that their doctors don't take time to talk to them. Lack of information leads to overutilization of physicians, and overcrowded waiting rooms filled with minor aches and major anxieties.

Lack of medical information also leads to delay in seeking treatment. A symptom that seems minor may be serious, or as is more frequent, the patient knows that something is wrong but is fearful of what the doctor will find.

Dr. Daniel W. Foster, nationally recognized expert on endocrinology and professor of internal medicine at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, offers one solution by providing a medical reference book for the "non-physician." Foster's book, *A Layman's Guide to Modern Medicine*, aims at informing the patient on when a symptom is serious and when it is not...when one has cause to worry about weight loss, fever, pain, bleeding, shortness of breath, vertigo, fatigue, and so on.

*A Layman's Guide* gives factual information on the basic physiology of disease in this country, and it provides a reference for such specific questions as "What is an arteriogram?", "How does chemotherapy work?", and "What did my doctor mean by heart failure?" It's full of up-to-date material recently published in the scientific literature and not available in other medical books.

This authoritative book is unique in that it was written by one who holds credentials as a physician, a teacher, a working scientist, an editor of scientific journals and a member of government advisory boards.

Foster is recognizable to many as the host of "Daniel Foster, M.D.," a national weekly television program shown on the Public Broadcasting System for several years. The program was carried in the United States, the BBC in Great Britain and the European network on the continent.

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While the book was intended as a medical reference for the general public, Dr. Foster has been surprised with reports from medical students that they have read the book from cover to cover to get an overview of core topics of medicine. These topics range from hypertension to hypoglycemia, and from diabetes to infertility. An important chapter has to do with the problems that arise when facing serious illness and death. The book also deals with topics of contemporary controversy such as the role of the coronary by-pass surgery in the treatment of coronary artery disease, the recombinant DNA debate and the sexual society.

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#### BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Dr. Foster received the M.D. degree from Southwestern in 1955, graduating with the highest academic record of the class. Prior to joining the faculty he was a member of the research staff of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. In addition to teaching, Dr. Foster carries on an active research program with emphasis on biochemical mechanisms in diabetes. He is a former chairman of the Metabolism Study Section of the National Institutes of Health and is a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians, the American Diabetes Association, the American Federation for Clinical Research and the Southern Society of Clinical Investigation. He is senior attending physician at Parkland Memorial Hospital and consulting physician to the Presbyterian Hospital and the Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Dallas. He was associate editor of the *Journal of Clinical Investigation* from 1972-1977 and is a member of the editorial board of *Metabolism, Clinical and Experimental*. He is editor of the journal *Diabetes*.

Dr. Foster is a ruling elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas where he teaches in the church school. He was formerly chairman of the Dallas Urban Council of the Presbytery of Northeast Texas. And from 1969-1972 he was a trustee of the Board of Education of the Dallas Independent School District.

Dr. Foster is married and is the father of three sons.

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