

Commencement Oath

Please indicate the Oath of your choice:

Oath of Hippocrates - Modern

I SOLEMNLY SWEAR OR AFFIRM, by whatever I hold most sacred;

That I will be loyal to the profession of medicine and just and generous to its members;

That I will lead my life and practice my art in uprightness and in honor;

That into whatsoever house I shall enter, it shall be for the good of the sick to the utmost of my power, holding myself far aloof from wrong, from corruption, from the tempting of others to vice;

That I will exercise my art solely, for the benefit of my patients, and will give no drug, or perform no operation, for a criminal purpose, even if solicited, far less suggest it;

That whatsoever I shall see or hear of the lives of patients which is not fitting to be spoken, I will keep inviolably secret.

These things I do swear or affirm.

○ ***Oath written for Class of 1975 MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA***

At this time, may I pledge myself to put into practice that for which I have been trained—the prevention of disease and preservation of health. May I never be motivated by other than concern for the health of my patient and to this end, may I always strive to increase my knowledge and technical skills.

However, may I also be wary of my own humanity and strive to practice my profession with honesty and dignity. May my own shortcomings not be reflected in the care or interest I take in my patients and may bias and frustration not be a part of our relationship. In essence, may all patients regardless of race, politics, sex, or social standing be regarded by me as a fellow human in pain, for whom I will do as much as my training and knowledge allows. Above all, may I do no harm.

○ ***Oath written by the Class of 1975 as revised by the MCP Class of 1994***

I hereby pledge to put into practice that for which I have been trained—the restoration of health and the prevention of disease. May I be motivated only by concern for the health of my patient, not by financial issues or self-interest. I will strive to enhance both the science and art of medicine through continued acquisition of knowledge and technical skills. May I be willing to render help to my colleagues regardless of their professional interests, and seek their counsel when in doubt as to my own judgment.

May I also be wary of my own humanity and strive to practice my profession with honesty and dignity. May my own shortcomings not be reflected in the care or interest I take in my patients and may bias and frustration not be a part of our relationship. May I always regard as confidential that information shared with me by my patients, and honor their trust.

In essence, may each patient regardless of race, politics, gender, or social standing be regarded by me as a fellow human in need, for whom I will do as much as my training and knowledge allow. Above all, may I do no harm.

○ ***Ohio State University Version Oath of Hippocrates***

I do solemnly swear
By whatever I hold most sacred
That I will be loyal to the profession of medicine
And just and generous to its members.

That I will lead my life
And practice my art
In uprightness and honor.

That into whatsoever home I shall enter
It shall be for the good of the sick and the well to the utmost of my power
And that I will hold myself aloof from wrong

And from the corruption and from the tempting of others to vice.

That I will exercise my art
Solely for the cure of my patients and the prevention of disease
And will give no drug nor perform any operation for a criminal
purpose
And far less suggest such thing.

That whatsoever I shall see or hear of the lives of patients
Which is not fitting to be spoken abroad
I shall keep inviolably secret.

These things I do promise
And in proportion as I am faithful to this oath
May happiness and good repute be ever mine,
The opposite if I shall be foresworn.

○ **Oath of Maimonides**

Thy eternal providence has appointed me to watch over the life and health of Thy creatures. May the love for my art actuate me at all times; may neither avarice nor miserliness, nor thirst for glory, or a great reputation engage my mind; for the enemies of truth and philanthropy could easily deceive me and make me forgetful of my lofty aim of doing good to Thy children.

May I never see in the patient anything but a fellow creature in pain.

Grant me strength, time and opportunity always to correct what I have acquired, always to extend its domain; for knowledge is immense and the spirit of man can extend indefinitely to enrich itself daily with new requirements.

Today he can discover his errors of yesterday and tomorrow he can obtain a new light on what he thinks himself sure of today. Oh God,

Thou has appointed me to watch over the life and death of Thy creatures; here I am ready for my vocation and now I turn unto my calling.

○ **Oath of Hippocrates**

(This is a revised version of the Hippocratic Oath as formulated by the MCP graduating Class of 1992)

I swear by all that I hold highest, that according to my ability and judgment, I will keep this Oath and this stipulation: to reckon those who taught me this Art equally dear to me as my parents, to share my substance with them and relieve their necessities if required, to look upon their offspring in the same footing as my own brothers and sisters and to teach them this Art if they shall wish to learn it, without fee or stipulation; and that by precept, lecture and every other mode of instruction I will impart a knowledge of the Art to my own sons and daughters and those of my teachers and to disciples bound by a stipulation and oath, according to the law of medicine, but to none others.

I will follow that system of regimen which, according to my ability and judgment, I consider for the benefit of my patients, and abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous.

With purity and holiness I will pass my life and practice my Art. Into whatever houses I enter, I will go into them for the benefit of the sick, and will abstain from every voluntary act of mischief and corruption. Whatever in connection with my professional practice or not in connection with it, I see or hear in the life of men or women which ought not to be spoken of abroad, I will not divulge, as reckoning that all such should be kept secret. While I continue to keep this Oath unviolated, may it be granted to me to enjoy life and the practice of the Art respected by all men and women in all times! But should I trespass and violate this oath, may the reverse be my lot!

○ ***Oath of Hippocrates***

I swear by Apollo, the physician, and Aesculapius and Hygieia and Panacea and all the gods and goddesses, that according to my ability and judgement, I will keep this Oath and this stipulation: to reckon him who taught me this Art equally dear to me as my parents, to share my substance with him and relieve his necessities if required, to look upon his offspring in the same footing as my own brothers and to teach them this Art if they shall wish to learn it, without fee or stipulation: and that by precept, lecture and every other mode of instructor I will impart a knowledge of the Art to my own sons and those of my teachers and to disciples bound by a stipulation and oath, according to the law of medicine, but to none others.

I will follow the system of regimen which, according to my ability and judgement, I consider for the benefit of my patients, and abstain from what ever is deleterious and mischievous. I will give no deadly medicine to anyone if asked, nor suggest any such counsel.

With purity and holiness I will pass my life and practice my art. Into whatever houses I enter, I will go into them for the benefit of the sick, and will abstain from every voluntary act of mischief and corruption. Whatever in connection with my professional practice or not in connection with it, I see or hear in the life of men which ought not to be spoken of abroad, I will not divulge, as reckoning that all such should be kept secret. While I continue to keep this Oath unviolated, may it be granted to me to enjoy life and the practice of the Art respected by all men in all times! But should I trespass and violate this Oath, may the reverse be my lot!

○ ***Declaration of Geneva***

At the Time of Being Admitted as Member of The Medical Profession

I Solemnly Pledge Myself to Consecrate My Life to the Service of Humanity.

I Will Give to my Teachers the Respect and Gratitude which is their due;

I Will Practice My Profession with Conscience and Dignity;

The Health of My Patient will be my First Consideration;

I Will Respect the Secrets Which Are Corifided in Me;

I Will Maintain by All the Means in My Power, the Honor And the Noble Traditions of the Medical Profession;

My Colleagues Will Be My Brothers;

I Will Not Permit Consideration of Religion, Nationality, Race, Party Politics or Social Standing to Intervene Between My Duty and My Patient;

I Will Maintain the Most Respect for Human Life, from Time of Conception, Even under Threat, I Will Not Use My Medical Knowledge Contrary to the Laws of Humanity.

I Make These Provisions Solemnly, Freely and upon My Honor.

○ **Modern Version of The Hippocratic Oath**

(World Medical Association, First Assembly, 1947, Paris)

"Now being admitted to the profession of medicine,

I solemnly pledge to consecrate my life to the service of humanity.

I will give respect and gratitude to my deserving teachers.

I will practice medicine with conscience and dignity.

The health and life of my patient will be my first consideration.

I will maintain the honor and the noble traditions of the medical profession.

My colleagues will be as my brothers.

I will not permit consideration of race, religion, nationality, party politics, or social standing to intervene between my duty and my patient.

I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from the time of its conception.

Even under threat, I will not use my knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity.

These promises I make freely and upon my honor."