

Interpret sei der Mensch [Arzt], aber nicht Sophist!

*[Doctors] should be interpreters, but not sophists!*

PARACELSUS

We need suitable clinimetric methods to observe and express the phenomena discerned only by patients and clinicians. Another important challenge is to develop suitable observational substitutes for the many circumstances where randomized trials cannot be done.

*Alvan R. Feinstein*

It is time for us to ask and keep on asking, what is medicine achieving? It is time to ask when people say to us that the operation was a success, but did the patient survive?

*Stephen R. Leeder*

The exercise of judgement, no matter how wise, is a risk-taking behaviour and discomfits those who are «hot for certainties».

*James S. McCormick*

Unfortunately, randomized trials are aimed at answering a question about average efficacy. They do not necessarily give the information that a clinician needs for dealing with individual patients.

*Alvan R. Feinstein*