

# LETTERS

## When Practicing Medicine was "Real"

I read with total understanding and support Dr. Gershen's "Personal Perspectives" article in *Maryland Medicine* (Volume 13, Number 1). Entering medical school in 1954 at Tulane University School of Medicine, followed by a brief residency in internal medicine, I became a general practitioner.

Today's wonderful tools of the trade were preceded by hands, smells, percussion, auscultation . . . etc., etc., etc.! It was a wonderful life, a bit scary, risky, and always with rewards of successes when they came, as they usually did. I was fortunate to experience practicing in suburban areas and very rural, isolated areas, and to have a medical management career with insurance companies. All were enlightening but a far cry from today's sophisticated care and skilled and technically competent clinicians.

Thank you for the recall in what was "real medical practice."

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