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## The Special Role of the Catholic School of Medicine .. (An Editorial)

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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## **An Editorial:**

### **The Special Role of the Catholic School of Medicine**

All medical schools in the United States, both Catholic and non-Catholic, have much in common in teaching and preparing their students to become successful physicians and practitioners. All schools are giving excellent training and we are proud of the accomplishments of our medical profession.

Our five Catholic medical schools have not only kept pace with the professional and legal standards of the non-Catholic schools, but have also exerted a great influence upon the entire medical profession by stressing the teaching of the moral obligations of the practitioner and the spiritual rights and needs of the patient.

Our present day civilization, with its rank materialism and utter disregard of things spiritual, places a heavy burden on the Catholic physician in administering to his patients. The general practitioner in his special role as family doctor and counselor is continually confronted with the task and challenge of preserving and guarding the well-being of those in his care. Next to the parish priest the family doctor should gain and hold the confidence of the members of his community. His mode of living and moral standards must be of the highest if he is to keep faith with the trust they place in him.

The Catholic medical school throughout the entire course of medical training indoctrinates all students, regardless of their faith, in their moral responsibilities according to the Natural Law and Ten Commandments. With this Catholic training in philosophy and ethics the general practitioner in his role of family doctor is far better qualified to accomplish his mission, namely, the physical and spiritual care of his patients.

P. J. CARROLL, M.D.

*Dean,*

Creighton University School of Medicine