



IS DOCTOR GOOGLE MAKING US SICK?

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INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, doctors have to deal with patients who google their symptoms before seeing an actual doctor. The doctors will do their utmost best to give the patient a fit-for-purpose diagnosis. However, by googling their symptoms, patients often adopt a third-person perspective towards their own body and speculate about diseases that may have caused their suffering.


*“But doctor,
Google says...”*

*“According to
Google, I have
this disease.”*

*“This picture on
the internet
shows exactly
what I have.”*

*“I know this is
true because I
read it online
somewhere.”*

*“Many of my
Facebook friends
have the same
thing.”*



ILLNESS VERSUS DISEASE

SELF-DIAGNOSING WITH THE HELP OF DOCTOR
GOOGLE OFTEN LEADS TO ILLNESS AND FEAR OF
DISEASE, BUT WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN THESE TWO PHENOMENA?

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ILLNESS AND DISEASE?

ILLNESS

- *“Illness is an unhomelike being-in-the-world in which the embodied ways of being-in of the self (person) have been thwarted. In illness the body shows up as an alien being (being me, yet not me) and this obstruction attunes the entire being-in-the-world of the ill person in an unhomelike way.”*

DISEASE

- *“A disease is a disturbance of the biological functions of the body (or something that causes such a disturbance), which can only be detected and understood from the third-person perspective of the doctor investigating the body with the aid of her hands or medical technologies.”*

SOURCE: SVENAEUS (2014)

SO... HOW CAN WE PREVENT ILLNESS AND DISEASE CAUSED BY DOCTOR GOOGLE?

- Be careful when self-diagnosing
- Consult a general practitioner or a specialist if you suffer from a disease
- Consult a general practitioner if you believe you have an illness with serious symptoms
- Don't let doctor Google's advice scare you; don't take it too seriously



THE END

THANKS FOR WATCHING
THIS PRESENTATION