



Complications

[A SURGEON'S NOTES ON
AN IMPERFECT SCIENCE]



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Healthcare

Medical Ethics

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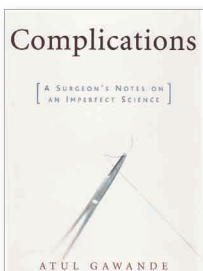
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ATUL GAWANDE

Author, *Complications*

As both a practicing surgeon and an accomplished writer and speaker, Atul Gawande offers audiences an unprecedented look into the heart and soul of medicine. Dr. Gawande is a general surgeon at the Center for Surgery and Public Health at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston and is an assistant professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Gawande's book, *Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science*, features fourteen essays written for *The New Yorker*, where he is a staff writer on medicine and science. Atul also writes regularly for the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

In *Complications*, Dr. Gawande offers a raw view from the scalpel's edge, where science is ambiguous, information is limited, the stakes are high, yet decisions must be made. In dramatic and revealing stories of patients and doctors, he explores how deadly mistakes occur and why good surgeons go bad. He shows what happens when medicine comes up against the inexplicable. At once tough-minded and humane,



Complications is nuanced and lucid, unafraid to confront the conflicts and uncertainties that lie at the heart of modern medicine, yet always alive to the possibilities of wisdom in humanity's heroic attempts at healing.

Dr. Gawande is a unique and important voice on an increasingly difficult and newsworthy subject. Audiences of all kinds are thrilled by his insider's portrayal of the detective work involved in diagnosis and treatment. Anyone who's been a patient finds his candid accounts of patient care enlightening. Medical audiences love his eloquent way of reflecting their conflicts and concerns. Hospitals and healthcare systems, researchers and insurance companies appreciate his focus on patient care tempered with the knowledge that costs matter and nothing in medicine is cut-and-dry. Non-medical audiences appreciate his deep insight into the issues of ethics and performance that all professionals face.

Direct and profound, his talks speak to the most pressing issues in medicine and healthcare today with a voice that is both candid and compelling. As with his writing, his stories and ideas capture the hows and the whys, the conflicts and the mysteries of modern medical practice.



CREDENTIALS

- ◆ Assistant Director, Center for Surgery and Public Health, Brigham and Women's Hospital
- ◆ Assistant Professor, Dept of Surgery, Harvard Medical School
- ◆ Asst Professor, Dept of Health Policy & Management, Harvard School of Public Health
- ◆ Rhodes Scholar
- ◆ Regular column for *The New England Journal of Medicine*
- ◆ M.D. from Harvard Medical School, M.P.H. from the Harvard School of Public Health
- ◆ Published in many anthologies of best American nonfiction: two in 2000, three in 2002, two in 2003 and 2004, and one in 2005
- ◆ National Book Award finalist