

You may ask, "So much more what?" It's called care.

Caring can injure your heart in a way you never thought possible; it can expose you to an infection that permeates and changes your whole being; caring puts you in contact with feelings you don't see, and that can hurt.

Yet, isn't caring one of the cornerstones of good medicine? How can you care for patients and show you care about them without being injured, exposed, and hurt? The answer is, you can't. Sure, some people can tend to patients in a distant, detached way, but patients will see and sense it and they will not recover as they should.

Others will try to perform their duties with "masks" on so patients won't see the sadness or concern in their face. They will wear "gloves" in order not to touch the patient with their feelings and be touched.

against this hazard.

Your job description calls for you to process (clean and disinfect) patient rooms, but your profession and humanity calls for you to do so much more. And I've seen it time, after time, after time.

