DOCTORS AND PATIENTS:
What We Have Here Is Failure to Communicate

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Dennis Boyle teaches medical students to communicate with each other and with their patients. Is there another communication situation so fraught?—at a time of great stress and pain a total stranger asks you highly personal questions and then tells you to take all your clothes off! Do we think that our doctors do the best possible job? Many patients leave these interactions with only the faintest clue about what actually transpired, and that can lead to trouble. Is failure to communicate related to the risk of a malpractice suit? Dennis is also a risk manager for COPIC, the Colorado malpractice insurance company, and he would know. Finally, doctors are under severe time (= money!) constraints to get essential patient data as accurately as possible. How do doctors gather information? Dennis promises a live demonstration, just like being in Med School!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME. The discussion starts at 6:30 in the Mercantile Room (no food service there). Come before 6 PM to leave yourself time to get something to eat in the restaurant area, or stay and eat afterwards. We end around 8 PM.

There’s no charge. The Wynkoop is generously providing the facility; we buy our own drinks. It is first come, first seated, and seating is limited so that everyone can take part in the discussion.

The Colorado Café Scientifique in Denver is organized by an informal committee of faculty from CU and institutions up and down the Front Range, as well as writers, students, and science fans from industry, government and all over. We welcome your input, including ideas for speakers and topics. Bring them with you to the next Café, or e-mail them and any questions to John.Cohen@UCHSC.edu

Essential information on our Web site at http://CafeSciColorado.org