

HUMOR IN MEDICINE

While I Got You on the Line

Kim Shaftner, MD

Hudson's Hardware. Can I help you?"

"Hello, may I speak with Lee?"

"Doc, is that you? This is Milt! I sure am glad you're back from vacation."

"Oh, hello, Milt. Actually, I'm still *on* vacation. Is Lee in?"

"Well, you won't believe this, Doc, but the very day you left, I had to go to the hospital. I've been on a leave of abscess for the past few days, and now I'm sitting here recapitulating at the store."

"Lemme tell you all about it while I got you on the line. I was just sittin' in my old easy chair watchin' Oper Winfree, when I got this awful pain in my belly—it went clean up into my goozle. I got up and took some Tylons and then some Pepso Bizmaul and didn't get nary a bit better. Then I went to bleedin' from my intestinals and dang if I wasn't feelin' pretty rotten."

"Well, Hester got herself all riled up and called the rescue squab. They up and hauled me off to the hospital and come to find out you was on vacation. That Dr Meehan came and saw me and decided he had to keep me. He didn't know if I had a gaspin' ulcer or a high anal hernia, or if my pinnix was actin' up. He got this right serious look on his face and started talkin' abut floratory surgery."

"Well, to make a story short, they found out that I just had some gastroindoritis. They put that snake up my backside and found a recal fisher and some chronic pollens but not much else."

"Milt, it's good to hear that you're better. Is Lee around?"

"You know, after I woke up from that cornoscopy stuff, I started weaseling in my chest. They thought it might be barnacle asthma or maybe emphysemo on account of my smokin' and all. Dr Meehan came in and got that real serious look again and said something about a preliminary embolism and blood clocks. They did a lung scam and a cardogram, and one of them muggin' tests. Heck, they even put me on that Fredmill! I think they was looking for some heart fibrillations, but they finally found out that I had brownchitis."

"So Doc Meehan has me on a gland diet and some Argumentin, and I'm doing a little better. I kinda like Dr Meehan in spite of that serious look and all. I mentioned I might like him to be my doctor. He said that you was just as fine a doctor as I needed and figured I oughta stay with you for the time being."

"Milt, is Lee working today? I have a problem with my mower and I really need to speak with him."

"Doc, he quit last week. Nice talkin' to you though."

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