

# HUMOR IN MEDICINE

## Mater Anser\*: Nursery Rhymes for Physicians

Kim Shaftner, MD

Princeton, North Carolina

Wee Willie Clinton  
Wailed to the States:  
"We must have a health plan  
Before it's too late!"

So he gave it to his lawyer wife  
Who hired some Beltway trolls;  
They fumbled it so badly,  
It was ammo for the Doles.

\*\*\*

Peter, Peter, overeater  
The nurses think he needs a sleeper;  
At 2:00 AM they call Doc Jake.  
Now Pete's asleep  
And Jake's awake.

\*\*\*

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,  
His vertigo flared and he took a bad fall—  
The docs on his case jumped quickly upon it  
But there were no clinical guidelines  
For fixing an omelet.

\*\*\*

Old Fred Cole was a merry old soul  
Who ate everthing he did please;  
He called for a Bud and for Marlboro Lights  
And a plate full of burgers with cheese.

He was hypertensive, quite noncompliant,  
Moderation never blocked his way;  
So his doctor didn't blink when Fred presented  
With a cerebellar CVA.

Fred left the ICU after half a zillion dollars  
And every complication known to man;  
The HMO said, "We must do something!"  
So they dropped the doc from their plan.

\*\*\*

Sing a song of cephalosporins  
A pocket full of pills;  
One for every ailment,  
For all infectious ills.

It used to be so easy,  
There were only three or four;  
Now they're just like rabbits:  
Every month we've seven more.

---

\*Mother Goose.

From *Princeton Family Care*, Princeton, North Carolina. Correspondence should be addressed to Kim Shaftner, MD, 104 East Edwards St, Princeton, NC 27569.