

**APPROACHES TO HEALTH CARE**

**MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS**

1

- Medical Knowledge Systems are the approaches to health care that are used to treat patients
- Health Care can be viewed in a variety of different ways based on our **cultural background, religious views and/or education**. There are two main classifications of approaches to health care: holistic and analytical.

2

**A) Holistic**  
 considers **total patient care** which includes the physical, emotional, social, economic, and spiritual needs of the person; his or her response to illness; and the effect of the illness on the ability to meet self-care needs.

3

**B) Analytical**  
 - is **very targeted and detail oriented**. The problem or issue is broken down into small parts in order to solve it. Facts are validated and supported through proof.

4

- **Analytic**--Taking wholes apart to find separate causes/effects
- **Holistic**—Leaving wholes be and seeking to harmonize the parts

5

**) Traditional Medicine**  
 Traditional Medicine is based on the **cultural beliefs** and **practices** handed down from **generation to generation** within various societies used to maintain **physical** and **spiritual** health.

Every culture has its own types of traditional **medicines** and **treatments**.

Traditional medicine is the oldest form of health care, developed before the era of Western Science.

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