



HOMECARE HERALD

CHRISTIAN

COMMUNITY

HOMECARE



OCTOBER

October is my favorite month of the year. It makes me happy—the falling leaves, crisp brisk air, pumpkins and black cats...I love it all. It is easy to feel joyful when surrounded by such beauty and I thank God every morning as I drive to work and see the trees changing color. I feel blest to be alive and a part of His creation. Today as I read my morning prayer, I thought of all of you that are part of Christian Community Homecare and would like to share this with you from, “He reminded Us of You.”

PRAISE TO GOD

You are a great God.

Your character is holy.

Your truth is absolute.

Your strength is unending.

Your discipline is fair.

Your provisions are abundant for our needs.

Your light is adequate for our path.

Your grace is sufficient for our sins.

You are never early, never late.

You sent your Son in the fullness of time and will return at the consummation of time.

Your plan is perfect.

Bewildering. Puzzling. Troubling. But perfect.

In His Service, Chris

The Medical Consumer: A Second Opinion

The old adage states that “two heads are better than one,” but when it comes to getting a second opinion about pursuing a medical procedure people often hesitate. For one thing, they worry about offending the specialist who made the recommendation in the first place. After all, specialists can



spend a decade or more acquiring the expertise that stands behind their judgment and know vastly more about the medical issues than the average person. Patients may also feel that they just don't have enough time to go through the process of tracking down another physician and having their records copied and transferred to the new physician's office.

But unless you need emergency surgery, getting a second opinion is worth the effort—and it's one that good doctors actively encourage. Physicians are individuals. Although they share a body of medical knowledge, they have their own opinions and thoughts about how to put that knowledge into practice—and these differences come into play in a variety of ways. The tools we use to diagnose disease are wonderful in their effectiveness, but they rarely provide absolute certainty. Individual viewpoints color the way physicians interpret test results. These philosophical differences extend to treatment. Some doctors take a conservative approach to treating their patients, while others are more aggressive and use the latest tests and therapies.

When seeking a second opinion, a good place to start is to ask your specialist for a recommendation. Your primary care provider can also make an informed recommendation, based on knowledge of the local medical community and the experiences of their other patients.

Before you set up an appointment, it makes sense to call your insurance provider. Find out if it will cover the second office visit, and if there are any restrictions on additional tests that a second physician might order.

With this understanding in mind, make an appointment to see the second doctor. Do not rely on a telephone conversation, since a physical examination is the key to an informed evaluation. Then have medical records sent to the second doctor so that they arrive in time for the physician to review them before you arrive. There may be a charge involved in copying these files—and you should follow up to make sure they arrive promptly.

Getting a second opinion may expose you to fresh perspectives and new information. It could provide you with new options for treatment that might conform more closely to your wishes, or it may confirm the original physician's recommendations. In either case, you can move forward feeling that you have made the best decision under the circumstances—and you'll spend less time later second-guessing your choice.

Web Resource: For information about getting a second opinion, visit the [Medicare Web site](#).

Article excerpt from <http://caregivers.sunriseconnection.com>

BIRTHDAY WISHES



Happy Birthday to:
Carol Iglauer-Oct. 1
Betty Schaefer-Oct. 11
Beth McAnallen-Oct. 24
Flora Bild-Oct. 27

**GOD'S BLESSINGS ON
YOUR SPECIAL DAY!**



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TODAY'S CLEAN LAUGH

What's it Take?

"What do you have to do to become a doctor?" my six-year-old granddaughter once asked.

Her dad, seeing an opportunity, said, "You have to do extremely well in school, take a lot of math and science, get into an excellent college, make the highest grades possible, and then go to med school, and follow that with an internship. Then you can start your own practice. Honey, as smart as you are, you can be anything you want to be."

Erin gave all this a moment's thought and then asked, "What do you have to do to be queen?"

Thanks to Pastor Tim for this joke!
<http://www.cybersalt.org/cleanlaugh>

