

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Should we try to only use Prophetic / 'Natural' Medicine and avoid Modern Medicine?



by Dr Adnaan ibn Salman *MBBChir* (Cambridge)
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia



Introduction

- Increasing trend of some Muslims making a point of avoiding very common and safe medical treatments:

- Paracetamol (calpol)
- Salbutamol (Ventolin) for Asthma
- Scabies
- Cancer treatment



- Make a point of using the Prophetic and/or 'Natural' medicine
- Only use Modern Medicine as a last resort

Why?

- Justification:

- Prophetic Medicine is good



- Modern Medicine is somehow bad / corrupt / harmful / not to be trusted



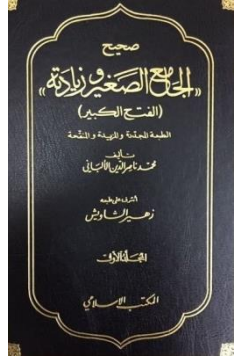
- Think it is better to stick to Prophetic / 'Natural' Medicine and avoid Modern medicine as far as possible



Is this correct



The Sunnah



إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَعَالَى خَلَقَ الدَّاءَ وَالدَّوَاءَ ، فَتَدَاوُوا ، وَلَا تَتَدَاوُوا بِحَرَامٍ

Indeed Allaah the Most High created disease and (He created) medicine (for it), so seek medical treatment, but do not do so with anything haraam

[Saheeh ul Jaami' 1762]

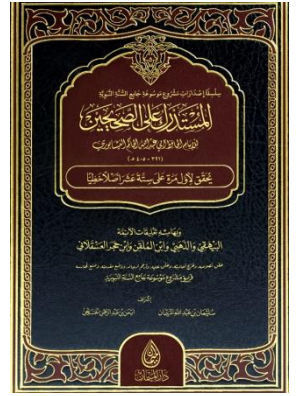
- General encouragement to seek medical treatment. (Exception is that which is haraam).

- Prophetic Medicine – based on a specific text
 - (e.g. *ruqyah*, honey, black seed, 1/3 for food etc.)
- Other forms of Medicine



- Did the Prophet ﷺ say – ‘stick to the treatments which I advise with because these are better, and stay away from other types of medicine’?
- No – there’s no evidence to restrict things in this way. In fact this would go against his ﷺ general encouragement.

The Companions

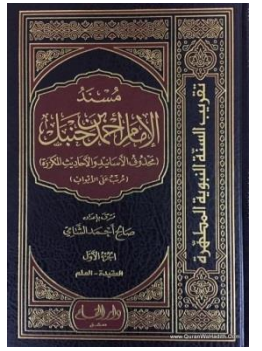


عَنْ هِشَامِ بْنِ عُرْوَةَ، عَنْ أَبِيهِ، قَالَ: قُلْتُ لِعَائِشَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا: قَدْ أَخَذْتُ السُّنْنَ عَنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ وَالشَّعْرَ وَالْعَرَبِيَّةَ مِنَ الْعَرَبِ، فَعَنْ مَنْ أَخَذْتَ الطِّبَّ؟ قَالَتْ: «إِنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ كَانَ رَجُلًا مِسْقَامًا وَكَانَ أَطِبَّاءُ الْعَرَبِ يَأْتُونَهُ فَاَتَعَلَّمُ مِنْهُمْ»

From Hisham bin `Urwah from his father who said: I said to Aishah ...
who did you learn Medicine from? She said:

**“Indeed the Messenger ﷺ used to become ill and the Arab doctors
would come to him, so I learnt from them”**

[Saheeh – al-Haakim in al-Mustadrak 7426]



وَلَكِنْ أَعْجَبُ مِنْ عِلْمِكَ بِالطِّبِّ كَيْفَ هُوَ؟ وَمِنْ أَيْنَ هُوَ؟ قَالَ: فَضَرَبْتُ عَلَى مَنْكِبِهِ وَقَالَتْ: «أَيُّ عُرْيَةٍ، إِنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ كَانَ يَسْقُمُ عِنْدَ آخِرِ عُمُرِهِ، أَوْ فِي آخِرِ عُمُرِهِ، فَكَانَتْ تَقْدُمُ عَلَيْهِ وَفُودُ الْعَرَبِ مِنْ كُلِّ وَجْهِ، فَتَنْعَتُ لَهُ الْأَنْعَاتِ، وَكُنْتُ أَعَالِجُهَا لَهُ، فَمِنْ ثَمَّ.»

However I am surprised at your knowledge of Medicine, how and where (did you learn) it from? He said: so she (Aishah) patted my shoulder and said:

“Dear `Urwah, indeed the Messenger of Allaah ﷺ used to become ill towards the end of his life and delegations of the Arab (tribes) would come to him from many different places, so I would prescribe the medicine for him and prepare it for him, so that’s how.”

[Saheeh - Ahmad 40/441]

The Modern Day Scholars

- Sh al-Albaani
- Sh Uthaymeen
- Sh Muqbil
- Sh Rabee

All used Modern Medical treatment



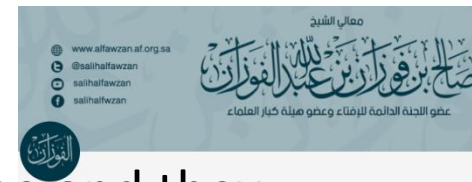


Sh Uthaymeen:

- took treatment (Boston, USA)
- gave talk to ‘modern’ medical doctors in Riyadh:¹
 - referred to their studying and practising medicine as being a “***fard kifaayah***” (a collective obligation), something for which they will receive a “**tremendous reward**” with the correct intention
 - Said patients “**should combine between these two types of treatments and there is no conflict when combining between *shar’ee ruqyah* and scientific medicines**”
- would consult with doctors and sometimes change his *fataawaa* (rulings) based on this

[1] ilm4all.blogspot.com/2016/11/shaikh-ibn-al-uthaymeen-guidance-for.html

- Sh Fawzaan:



Q: There are some people who advise with using the Prophetic Medicine and they warn against some modern day medical treatments, and we have seen that some patients have come to harm as a result of this warning, so what would you advise concerning this?

A: The Prophetic Medicine which is authentically established is true and it is beneficial, and it should not stop you from using permissible medical drugs. It does not stop you from this. You can take both. They are all from that which Allaah has made to be a healing, as he sallAllaahu'alaihiwasallam said:

“Allaah did not send down a disease except that he sent down a cure for it – whether you are aware of it or not.”¹

And he sallAllaahu'alaihiwasallam said:

“Take medical treatments and do not seek treatment in that which is *haraam* (impermissible).”²

So that medical treatment which is established and beneficial, then there is no problem in using it, along with using the Prophetic Medicine. They are both beneficial.

[1] Saheeh – see *as-Saheehah* no.s 451 & 1650

[2] *Saheeh-ul-Jaami'* 1762

Conclusion

- Concept of trying to stick to the Prophetic medicine as far as possible and only use modern medicine as a last resort – **is false**
- Rather should feel free or be encouraged **to use both** types of medicine. Using modern medicine comes under the Prophet's ﷺ general encouragement to take medical treatment.
- This is consistent with the approach of the Companions and the practice of the modern day scholars

