"Create the Disease and Offer the Cure" appears to be the overriding mandate of allopathic medicine subsuming what I learned in medical school – "First Do No Harm."

The most recent "disease" is asymptomatic atrial fibrillation. The article on a physician's site reads "Asymptomatic Atrial Fibrillation: Should You Be Concerned?" And, of course, the conclusion is 'Be Afraid, Be Very Afraid.' That's the essence of 'marketing disease to the masses' that I talked about in my Death by Modern Medicine book. Here's a shocking excerpt:

"Famed Madison Avenue wunderkind, Albert Lasker, considered the "Father of Modern Advertising", was also a central player in the "Reach for a Lucky instead of a sweet" campaign. Right after the successful Lucky Strike campaign was over, Lasker, having made the most money in the history of advertising, decided to retire and go into a new direction. He wanted to become a fundraiser for medical research.

In 1942, Lasker and his wife, Mary, founded the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation. In 1943, already associated with the American Cancer Society (ACS), the Laskers literally doubled the amount of money raised for cancer research that year. From that point on, the Laskers used all the Madison Avenue propaganda techniques Albert knew to condition the public to generously support funding for cancer research. The campaign strategy couldn't be simpler. Their friend and ACS ally, Elmer Bobst, president of the American branch of Hoffmann-LaRoche and later Warner-Lambert drug company, would start every public speech with, "One in five of us here – every fifth person in the audience – will die of cancer" then turn the fear he had engendered into hope by then stating, "We want to cure cancer in your lifetime."

With this "fear and hope" message, the ACS enlisted millions of unpaid volunteers to carry the message door to door and remind the public, especially during April which eventually was deemed "Cancer Month" by none other than the President of the United States, that if enough money was raised, cancer could be beaten. Thus was created an industry awash in money for research and treatment that many critics now call "Cancer, Incorporated". Some of these same volunteers have been rendered penniless when the cost or their own cancer treatment bankrupted them and their family.

Health charities like the American Cancer Society, or the Arthritis Foundation, or the American Diabetes Association became the public relations arm for each disease. Each charity would first build on the fear of getting their dread disease and convince people that money was the cure. The promise of that cure was just around the corner, if only enough money could be raised to research their particular disease. As the years rolled by, health charities focused on hustling the message to the public both nationally and at the local level to keep each disease visible through local fund drives, special events and the like while much of the money they raised went to lobbyists in Washington to raise the big bucks."

Did that strategy work? Not by a long shot. The one-in-five people dying of cancer in their lifetime is now one in two. But as I say in my book:

“Why Fix a System That's Earning Billions? Drug companies and modern medicine do not see the need to change what they are doing. After all they are making billions of dollars, so their strategists wonder why they should change a winning game. Doctors are earning a sizeable income, and American medical conventions attract 20,000-30,000 participants where newer and more expensive drugs and surgical techniques are touted.
Modern medicine is very pleased with the monopoly it has created. However, for the majority of North Americans, modern medicine is a losing game.

As I mentioned above, one of the newest diseases that we have to fear is asymptomatic atrial fibrillation. Some of you who are readers of my free online newsletter may remember me announcing that I'd won an award from a prestigious heart rhythm association called "http://www.heartrhythmcongress.com" presented at The Heart Rhythm Congress organized by the Heart Rhythm Society (HRS), Sept 23-26, 2012. The Nutritional Magnesium Association issued a Press Release highlighting the award and the importance of magnesium.

Magnesium being recognized by a heart rhythm association is a step in the right direction but then I read articles about atrial fibrillation and see no mention of using magnesium as a primary intervention. In fact, modern medicine says the cause of atrial fibrillation is still unknown, yet, the incidence is increasing each year.

Why is that? Because our collective magnesium deficiency is now epidemic. The heart rhythm is maintained by the electrical activity of the heart muscle and nerves. That electrical activity is maintained by the proper balance of magnesium and calcium. When there is too much calcium, as there is in our modern diet, and too little magnesium, because it's been absent from our agricultural soil for decades, then the heart rhythm is, by definition, going to falter. At that point, surgically implanted pacemakers, surgical ablation of sites of aberrant activity, and drugs will not change the fact that the heart doesn't have enough magnesium to keep it beating properly. The heart has more magnesium than any other organ in the body, which should tell you something about its importance.

Believe me, most doctors don't want to harm their patients. Perhaps, that's why they only seem to be able to diagnose about 4% of drug side effects because they don't want to think drugs are harmful. In medical school we learned nothing about magnesium or any other nutrients, and at the same time we were told that we would learn all there was to know about disease and the treatment of disease and anything else was just quackery.

So, it's left up to you to educate your doctor so you can get help in weaning off drugs. Tell your doctor what symptoms have cleared up with the use of magnesium. Chances are your doctor is suffering from many of the same symptoms and might just begin using magnesium and see the benefits and then pass that knowledge on to their patients. You could be saving your own life and the lives of many others.

About the author: Dr. Carolyn Dean is The Doctor of the Future. She is a medical doctor and naturopathic doctor in the forefront of the natural medicine revolution since 1979.

Dr. Dean is the author/coauthor of over 30 health books (print and eBooks) including The Magnesium Miracle, Death by Modern Medicine, IBS for Dummies, IBS Cookbook for Dummies, The Yeast Connection and Women's Health, Future Health Now Encyclopedia, Death by Modern Medicine, Everything Alzheimer's, and Hormone Balance.