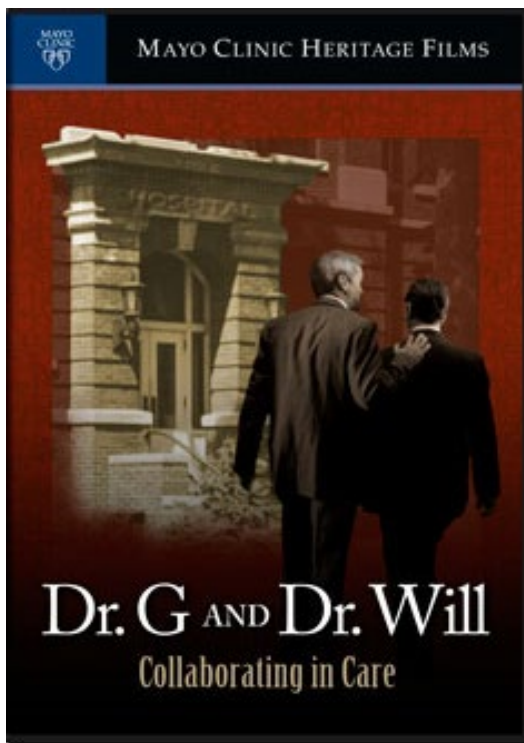




Mayo Clinic Heritage Films Discussion Guide

Dr. G and Dr. Will: Collaborating in Care



In America in the 1920s, medical care became increasingly effective—and expensive. Across the country, ideas for reforming the health care system were hotly debated.

This film imagines Dr. William J. Mayo visiting a small-town hospital in 1927. Dr. Will and Dr. Giannopolus, the town's long-time general practitioner, have their own debate about the future of health care delivery.

“Dr. G and Dr. Will” was created in celebration of the 20th anniversary of Mayo Clinic Health System: local providers collaborating with Mayo Clinic to provide quality care close to home.

Discussion Questions

1. What are some of the challenges and rewards of providing health care to a small community as opposed to an urban population?
2. The Mayo brothers were proud of only charging what a patient could afford to pay. Do you think Dr. G had a valid point in complaining that this undercut the fees his smaller hospital relied on to stay open?
3. Dr. Will often toured small-town hospitals. What do you think he stood to gain from that?

4. How do you think Dr. Will's early experience working with his father, a small-town doctor serving rural patients, informed his philosophy of how to deliver patient care?
5. With the ever-increasing specialization of medicine, what do you think is the future of the general practitioner?
6. How can providers at hospitals in a competitive environment still collaborate in serving patients?