

Digital Healing Author to Speak at the University of Colorado on January 7th

January 07, 2020

January 07, 2020 - PRESSADVANTAGE -

Marc Ringel, a medical doctor based in Greeley, Colorado, and author of the book titled "Digital Healing," has announced that he has a speaking engagement at the University of Colorado at Boulder, at the Anschutz Medical Campus, scheduled for January 7, 2020, from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, MST. While the book had been published more than a year ago, Marc Ringel is still actively promoting it and routinely speaks about the effects of technology in relation to the health care industry. Dr. Ringel is a Senior Clinical Instructor at the Department of Family Medicine of the university.

Dr. Marc Ringel will talk about "Using Information Technology in Ways that Free Us to Be Healers," at the University of Colorado Ed II South, Room L28-1102, across from the bookstore at the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado. The book examines how to organize the work of healthcare in a such way that machines are used to perform what they do best, thus freeing human medical professionals to do also what they do best. He believes that smart use of electronic technology is vital to the success of any attempt to comply with the Institute of Healthcare Improvement's triple aim of making healthcare more effective, more humane, and more efficient.

Dr. Marc Ringel himself explains, "American healthcare is at a critical juncture. Providers and patients are increasingly frustrated by the degradation of the human relationships that lie at the core of the medical practice. Technologies, such as the computerized medical record, get much of the blame for intrusion into the patient-provider relationship. However, technology itself is not to blame. The fault lies with how systems are conceived, designed, and deployed."

His book analyzes the proper way to organize the work of healthcare such that computers are made to do what they do best with the result that humans would be freed to do what they do best. Dr. Marc Ringel will also do a book signing at CU Boulder.

The book is available at Amazon as an audiobook, with Dr. Ringel as narrator. In the book, he points out that it has become impossible to separate electronic computing and communication tools from medical practice and research. Digital machines can perform certain tasks more accurately and much faster than humans. However, there are certain functions that are critical to the healthcare industry that people can do better than machines. Examples are understanding and using natural language; being able to perceive what has not been explicitly stated; touching and healing; and taking into account culture, values, ethics, and human relationships. In the foreseeable future, human beings will continue to be better than even the "smartest" computers when it comes to performing most anthropic functions.

Based on customer feedback, the book has received an overall rating of 4.8 out of 5 stars on Amazon. For instance, James M. gave the book five stars and said, "[?] Ringel has hard facts and a lot of information to convey. He does so with an easy, conversational, gentle, informed, philosophical, often humorous, tone. He writes with the authority that comes from his experience as a doctor, and his extensive research into the realm of medical technology. I found this compelling. Every page has something of interest, because, ultimately, the book is about the patient, Ringel's concern is the patient; and who hasn't been, or will not be, a patient."

Robert T. also gave the book a five-star rating and said, "[...]. In his book [...] Dr. Ringel explores how we can use information technology in ways that humanize the healthcare endeavor. Written for both clinical and lay audiences, this book presses the need for healing to be re-emphasized, especially as we each consider how we employ information and technology. As Dr. Ringel states so well, it is not so much the fact we employ such tools in healthcare; but rather, what is most important is how we use them.[...]"

Those who would like to learn more about Dr. Marc Ringel's book, "Digital Healing: People, Information, Healthcare," can visit his website, or contact him on the telephone or via email.

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Marc Ringel

In June 2018 Marc Ringel retired from a career practicing and teaching family medicine. Marc continues to write and speak about family medicine, the role of information technology in healthcare, rural healthcare, and community-engaged research.

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