

# Medical practice dangerous: MD

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Staff Writer

There's nothing more dangerous today than the medical profession, a prominent U.S. doctor said yesterday.

Dr. Robert Mendelsohn, an associate professor of preventive medicine and community health at the University of Illinois and former chairman of the Illinois medical licensing committee, is a confessed "medical heretic" whose gospel is to question everything doctors say.

He was addressing a symposium on Total Health for the 80s, held this weekend at the Royal York Hotel.

Dr. Mendelsohn says don't believe in medicine as a science. "There is nothing scientific about medicine; science is a delusion."

He lashed out at the excesses of modern medical practice, citing unnecessary operations, unnecessary pre-



**DR. MENDELSON:** He's got questions

scribing of drugs and the "real damage" these things can lead to.

The four "holy waters" of modern

medicine were singled out by Dr. Mendelsohn as the most common unnecessary rituals of modern medicine:

□ The standard use of silver nitrate in the eyes

of new-born babies to prevent the transmission of venereal disease from the mother to the child.

□ Routine immunization of infants.

□ The standard practice of using intravenous for the mother during birth — often merely a preparation for caesarian section, something which Dr. Mendelsohn said occurs far too often.

□ The flouridation of drinking water.

Dr. Mendelsohn was also critical of the Hospital for Sick Children in the recent death of Stephen Yuz, 8. Stephen was found by a coroner's jury to have died following a misreading of his illness, confusion in the hospital's chain of command and a miscalculation of drug dosage.

Mendelsohn recommended severe disciplinary measures regarding the doctors involved.