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abcde11. Drug Medication Damages. A brief whimsical look at this problem.

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Let me understand this now.

The news media have announced on Tuesday November 18, 2003 that there are hundreds of thousands of mistakes made with medications every year but, not to worry because less than 2 percent cause any damage. That is reassuring. Now tell me please, what are the numbers? They don't want to say the numbers. Lets try a rough figure of what the numbers might be.

Hundreds of thousands might be say, 250,000 while less than 2% is probably 1.9% so lets guess at that number too and place it at 1.9%. That means $250,000 \times 1.9 \div 100 = 4,750$ damaging incidences per year. That would indicate somewhere around 4,750 people every year have some sort of bad reaction or adverse effect to drugs.

To put that into perspective, if an airplane carries say, 250 people, then the 4,750 people injured by drug medications would be like 19 planes crashing every year, but not everyone dies. That's about once every three weeks.

Now if the airline industry were to argue the point and say, hey there are 245,250 other incidences that we handle just fine, where no one gets hurt, so it is not so bad, then I would quite likely perk up a bit and pay attention as I was scratching my head wondering why they would argue like that.

Of course the airline industry is far safer than this and they would not make a ridiculous argument like that, so why does the drug industry try to get away with it? Hey folks, all we want to see are things safer than that's all. We do need drug medications for sure, let's just have these people clean up their act a bit for safety's sake. The chiropractic profession is so safe by comparison that, well, you can't even make a comparison.

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