



When There is Another Option

20. If a woman needs to see a doctor and has the option of going to either a male or female doctor – and there is no advantage (such as expertise) to see the male doctor – she should ideally see the female doctor. (The same applies when the genders are reversed.)

21. If a man has an equally feasible option to see a male doctor, yet chooses to see a female (or vice versa), he falls under the category which the Gemara (*Bava Basra* 57b) terms a “*rasha*” (wicked): “*Ikka darka achruta – rasha.*” This means that one who has two equal paths before him, one which poses a risk of seeing inappropriate sights and one which does not, and he chooses the risky path, he is considered a *rasha*. (*Chut Shani* EH p. 64)