THERAPEUTIC DIAGNOSIS

We **<u>can</u>** find out what's going on RIGHT NOW, if you have a spare \$21,000 lying around. There are specialists who are at your service to run ALL of these diagnostics on literally, the same day.

Sort of like an *auto mechanic who for the right amount of money, could*

disassemble the entire engine and replace all the parts to fix your car right the *first* time, and on the <u>same</u> day.

Any organ system can be assessed with direct-function tests, ultrasound, Xrays, challenge-testing, while all orthopedic conditions can be assessed with a thorough neurological exam, bloodwork, urinalysis, CT or MRI of the affected part and bone density Xrays not necessarily in that order, and neurological conditions can be assessed with all the same testing, plus muscle and nerve biopsies, conduction tests, and more. Blood_disorders can be assessed with serial testing, run frequently under hospitalization, blood histopathology, bone marrow biopsies, while gastrointestinal disorders can go from fecal culture, centrifugation, immune-assay, to pinch-biopsy of the intestine plus all of the above, and airway diseases can be discovered with all of the above PLUS anesthesia and a trans tracheal wash, and more.

IF THE PET IS NOT IN THE PROCESS OF, (OR AT RISK OF), DYING:

We can (instead) attempt a 'therapeutic diagnosis' to wit:

- If we think it's just lameness, inflammation, arthritis, sprain or strain, injury we can treat all those at once (concurrently), and see if we're right.
- If we think it's just bronchitis, pneumonia, atopy, allergy, infection, we can treat those concurrently and see if we're right.
- If we think it's a gut infection, Giardia or worms, we can treat that concurrently and see if we're right.
- If we think it's a pinched nerve, arthritis, sprain or strain, we can treat that concurrently and see if we're right.

And other times we're "pretty sure it's something specific" and we can run a diagnostic with that in mind. Not so much just "to rule it out" which is profitable. But to "Prove it" which is necessary for treatment quite often.

"Tests never provide any comfort. While treatments can yield INFORMATION and COMFORT."

SO, I'll recommend tests, but not "on the outside chance that's what it is" but in fact, on the LIKELY chance that's what it is. And prove it.

Put another way: I'll recommend tests based on what I think it ACTUALLY IS. Not based on what I think it IS NOT.

In the future, Artificial Intelligence will replace veterinarians, but it will be of their own making. A brainless robot could run every available test and get a print out of the problem(s). A list that is complete and comprehensive. *If the owner could afford it*. Well strap in, because that's the direction it's going in Veterinary medicine these days.