

"The test results are in and I'm afraid the prognosis is grim. You have contracted the terrible disease!"

Baruch had been sick for a while but now, as he heard the final report from his doctor, his heart sank.

"A Jew must never give up hope," he told himself, "Healing is in the hands of Heaven."

With renewed hope, he went to the Rebbe Rashab in Rostov for advice. The Rebbe suggested that he travel to Kharkov, to arrange an appointment with Professor Fabrikant and have him do surgery to remove the growth. "All will be good," he promised.

Baruch made the journey to Kharkov and arranged an appointment with the professor. "I refuse

to do the surgery," he exclaimed after conducting a thorough examination and reaching the same diagnosis as the other doctors. "It will be of no benefit at all, and worse, it could cause even more damage ending your life sooner than if we left it alone."

He returned to the Rebbe Rashab and reported what had transpired. "Go back to Kharkov and demand that the surgery be done," instructed the Rebbe. "I will also send him a telegram with a personal request that he operate on you." The professor knew the Rebbe because he had helped the Rebbe with some matters of health in the past.

With the telegram in hand and the patient in front of his eyes, the

professor decided to go ahead with the surgery on the grounds that so many were asking him and the potential damage was not that great. His opinion and that of many other medical professionals was that this man was beyond help anyway.

Baruch was admitted into the hospital and the professor carried out the operation as they had agreed. At his post-surgery visit, he realized that Baruch's situation had not been as diagnosed by him and the other doctors. Had they not done the surgery, Baruch's situation would have been much worse.

Baruch returned to full health.

The professor was very moved by what he had seen.

"I am a doctor with many degrees and I personally checked him and saw that he was in a state where no surgery would help. The Rebbe had never even checked him and yet he recommended the operation and it had helped. I am in awe from the great miracle I have witnessed before my very eyes!"

Professor Fabrikant was a very dignified and honored doctor who had many medical miracles to boast of, yet he kept the Rebbe's telegram in his pocket for 25 years to share with anyone who would listen to the great miracle that he had been blessed to be a part of.

(Likkutei Sippurim Perlow, #75)