

FM REVIEW 2016 3 COMMENTS

COMMENTS TO EDITOR: I would either reject this outright, or perhaps could support reject and resubmit. There is a valuable story in here somewhere about what it means to an active physician to retire; and then how it's possible to rediscover a meaningful role in teaching residents. However, there is almost none of this in this essay. The essay itself is rather unfocused, does not seem to know where it's going: it talks about what he intended to do in retirement, what he did, how he shifted to research, how he needed to improve his knowledge base, how it was hard to learn a complicated EMR. There is almost no interiority, reflection, or self-awareness in the essay. The best parts are the two anecdotes about the residents. Possibly an essay could be crafted around these, with a through line describing the challenges of retirement and the unexpected rewards of teaching. But the author would have to do a lot of work.

COMMENTS TO AUTHOR: Thank you for this essay about a life in teaching post-retirement. It reflects an often-heard statement that physicians never stop being physicians! Unfortunately, we are not able to use it in its present form. The narrative essay section seeks submissions that tell a story, and this essay does not really cohere as a single, unified story. We also look for transparency, personal insights, and self-awareness on the part of the author. The most compelling parts of the essay are the two anecdotes about the residents. Perhaps an essay that would be a better fit for the journal could be crafted around these examples with a through line describing the challenges of retirement and the unexpected rewards of teaching.