

FM REVIEW 2017 17 COMMENTS

COMMENTS TO EDITOR: This essay by a third year student planning a career as a surgeon praises the doctor-patient relationships s/he observes on the family medicine clerkship. Its main strength is that it shows the beneficial influence exposure to family medicine has even on students choosing other specialties. Nevertheless, I would recommend that we reject it, rather than send it out for review. I didn't find the essay to contain any especially original insights or observations; and occasionally it slips into a rather slightly self-congratulatory tone that was a bit jarring.

COMMENTS TO AUTHOR: Thank you for your well-crafted and nicely observed essay regarding the important relationships family physicians develop with their patients. We found it gratifying that someone planning a career as a surgeon could be so aware of the interpersonal and narrative approaches that family docs bring to their practice. We especially appreciated your comparison of family doctors as "Shakespearean actors," skillfully adapting their interaction styles to the different patients before them. Unfortunately, we do not feel the essay is a good fit for our journal, whose readers are family medicine educators. While your essay values family physicians in a truly lovely way, its insights would not be sufficiently novel for our readership. We regret that we cannot accept all the submissions we receive that show promise. Thank you for considering our journal, and we encourage you to keep writing.