

## **FM REVIEW 2018 37 COMMENTS**

**COMMENTS TO EDITOR:** This is a really lovely essay about being a patient navigator, and how important this role can be in providing optimal health care. It is well-written and tells a really sweet story. Reviewers both liked it and recommend publication.

My only concern is it does not have a direct message for family doctors and medical educators. I think the take-away is appreciation for patient navigators and other ancillary staff; and below I suggest ways that the author might make this more explicit.

**COMMENTS TO AUTHOR:** This is a very well-written essay that tells a lovely and too-often-overlooked story about patient navigators. Both reviewers liked it very much. Reviewer 2 made several minor stylistic recommendations which we suggest you adopt.

The only issue we'd like you to consider is how to make the essay a little more pertinent to the family physicians and medical educators who comprise the journal's readership. To me, the take-away message is appreciation for patient navigators and other ancillary staff who do so much often with so little recognition. Perhaps you could incorporate a paragraph about how the oncologist or other physicians involved in treating Nina noticed what a difference your attention made. Maybe you could make a comment about teamwork and how the essential services you provide for the patient complement what her physicians are doing. Please think about this issue and try to find a way to address it.

**COMMENTS TO EDITOR II:** This is a well-crafted, very sweet essay written by a patient navigator. Other than some very minor stylistic revisions for clarity, my only concern was whether the essay was sufficiently relevant to family physicians and family medicine educators to merit publication. The authors have added a sentence making explicit the ways in which patient navigators can complement and support the physician's role. This being the case, I think it is always helpful for physicians to hear directly from those who contribute to their mission in ways that too often go unremarked. These are important voices, and ultimately they are a gift that the journal can give to its readers.

**COMMENTS TO AUTHOR II:** Thank you for these small changes that nevertheless add to the readability of your story. We appreciate your making explicit the ways in which patient navigators can complement and support the physician's role. It is always helpful for physicians to hear the voices of those who contribute so importantly to their mission, yet in ways that too often go unremarked. Your essay promotes a better understanding of the contributions of patient navigators, which in turn we hope will promote a greater sense of teamwork and partnership.