

## **FSH DECISION LETTER 2015 8**

**Based on my review and on reviewer comments I am not able to accept your submission in its current form. However, this is a strong, compelling poem which, with minor revision, can be even more vivid. The poem is dense, both with imagery and with barely contained emotion. In a few words, it conveys a great deal about the father's physical state, the daughter's emotional state, the ambivalence and intimacy that characterizes their relationship. We felt, however, that the concluding lines of the first two stanzas fell a bit short in comparison to the rest of the poem, and wondered if you might work to make them more immediate and concrete. See attached for further comments.**

**DECISION LETTER II: I am pleased to inform you that your work has now been accepted for publication in *Families, Systems, and Health*. Thank you for the excellent revisions which, in the first stanza, effectively highlights the narrator's guilt through small, concrete details; and in the second stanza, shows us the parent who was and the much reduced parent who is. The craft in this poem is consistently strong and sweeps the reader up in a series of blunt and troubling images. It will be a pleasure to publish this poem in *Families, Systems, and Health*.**