



Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics

A Journal of Qualitative Research

Call for Stories

Doctor in the Family: Stories and Dilemmas Surrounding Illness in Relatives

Symposium Editor: Lauren Smith, MD

Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics will publish a collection of personal stories from physicians who have dealt with illness in family members. It can be difficult to navigate personal and professional roles for doctors when relatives are sick. The lines can be blurred between being a loving family member or caregiver and physician in these circumstances. Unique ethical issues can arise.

We are soliciting true, personal stories about dealing with illnesses in relatives. These could be mild, chronic, or terminal conditions. **Please share this invitation and guide sheet with possible authors.**

In writing your story, please consider the following questions:

- When has being a physician affected your relationship with a family member, and in what manner? What roles did you play as a physician?
- What is positive and beneficial about being a physician in the family?
- What is negative or potentially harmful about being a physician in the family?
- In hindsight, would you behave any differently in relation to family members?
- What would you want other physicians to know about the risks and benefits of being a physician to family members?
- What would you want family members to know before they consult a physician in the family?

You do not need to address each of these questions—write on the issues that you think are most important to share with others.

If you are interested in submitting a story, we ask you to **first submit a 300-word proposal**—a short description of the story you want to tell. **Inquiries or proposals should be sent to the editorial office via email: narrativebioethics@gmail.com. We will give preference to story proposals received by May 1, 2017.**

We plan to publish 12 stories (4 – 10 double-spaced pages or 800 – 2000 words) on this topic. Some additional stories may be published as online-only supplemental material. We also publish 2 – 4 commentary articles that discuss the stories that are published in the journal. To see a finished symposium, you may access *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics* Volume 3.1 for free on [Project MUSE](#). For more information about the journal *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics*, the guidelines for authors, and privacy policies, visit our webpage at: <http://www.nibjournal.org/authors/guidelines.html>