

Med Student's got Talent

By: GAVIN
JONES



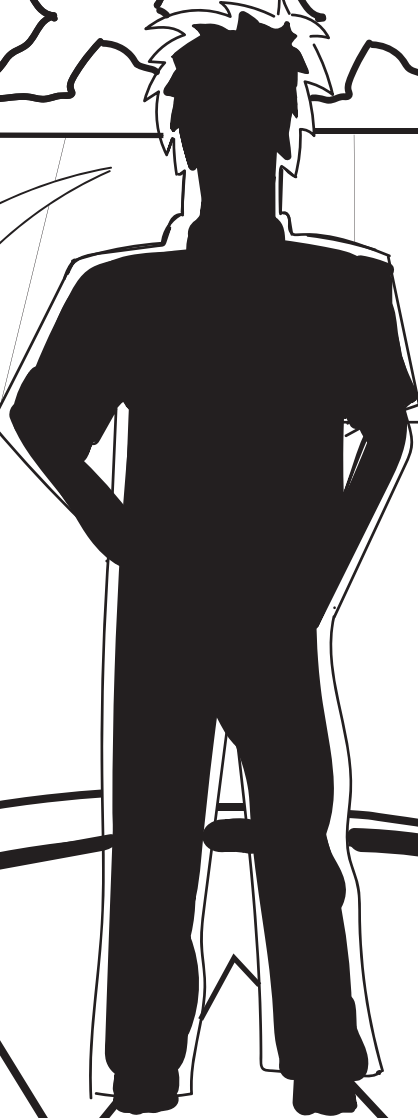
HAVING RECENTLY STARTED MY 3RD YEAR OF MEDICAL SCHOOL, I HAVE AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF NEW STRESS RELATED TO PERFORMING WELL ON CLERKSHIPS. IT IS ALMOST LIKE PERFORMING WELL WILL INFLUENCE MY ODDS OF MATCHING AND CONSEQUENTLY MY ABILITY TO PAY OFF THE MOUNTAINS OF STUDENT DEBT I HAVE ACCUMULATED.

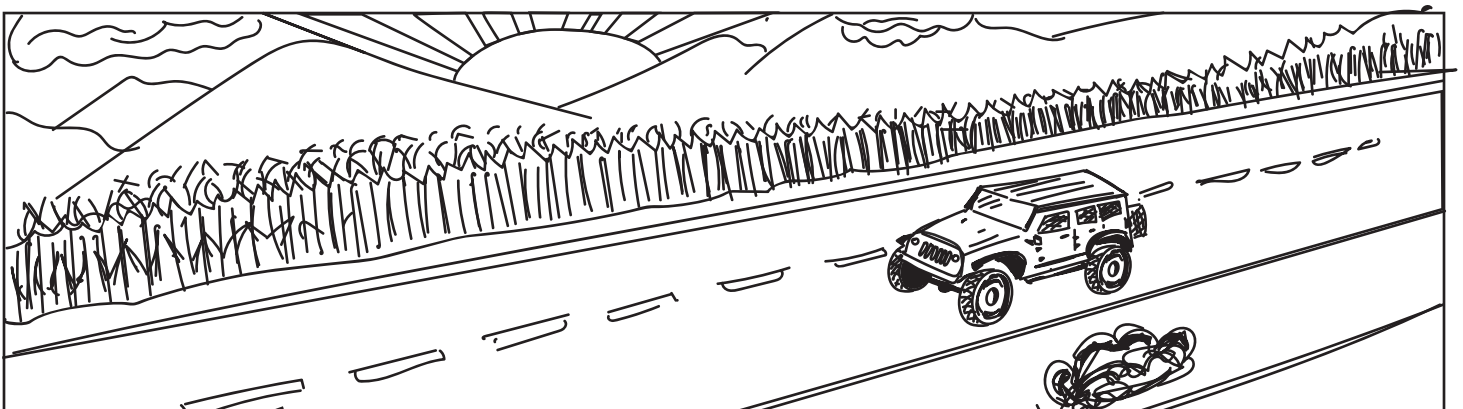
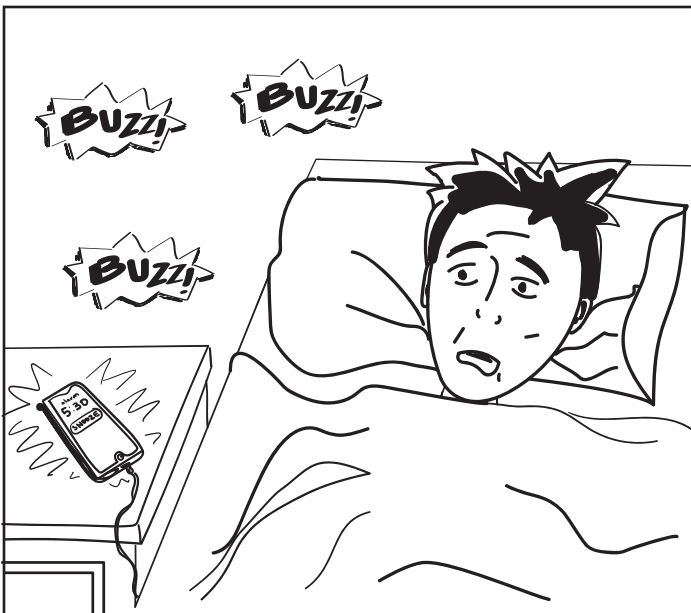
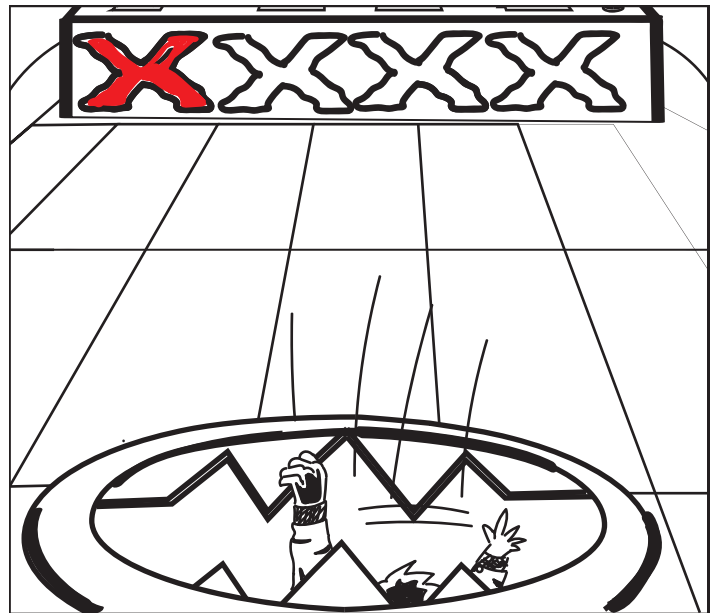
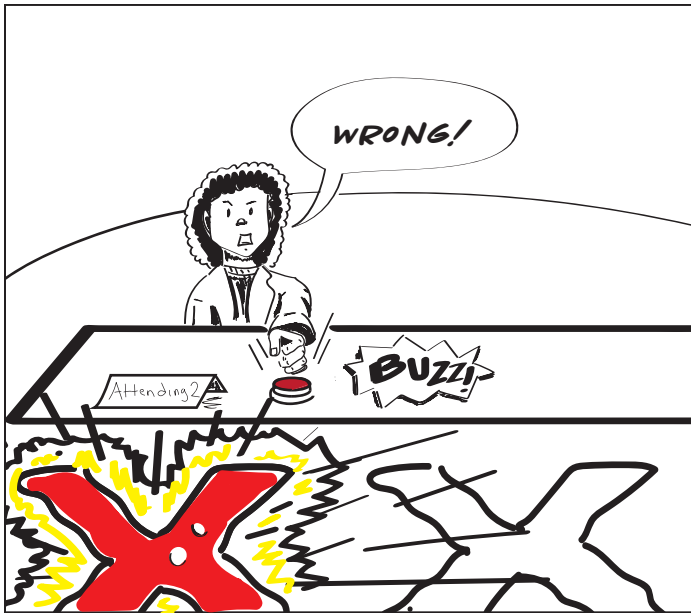
SOMETIMES MY STRESSORS HAVE A WAY OF SURFACING IN MY DREAMS. IN THIS CASE, MY MIND CONVENIENTLY CONSTRUED A WAY TO ALSO RUIN AMERICAS FAVORITE TALENT SHOW WHILE PLAYING ON MY ANXIETY OF PRESENTING ON INTERNAL MEDICINE ROUNDS.

I DEMAND THAT YOU TELL ME THE RATE LIMITING ENZYME OF THE KREBS CYCLE.

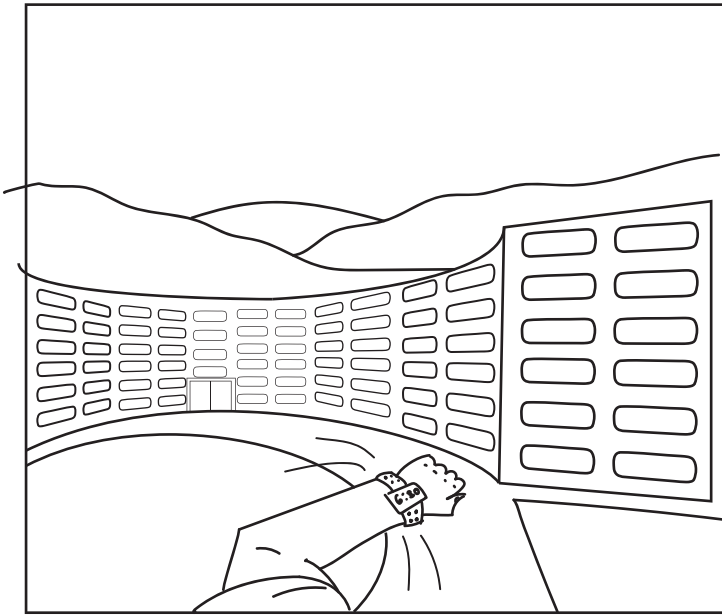


MM.. WELL,
I DIDNT THINK
I WOULD NEED TO KNOW
THAT AFTER TAKING
STEP 1, BUT IS IT...





DESPITE THE RESTLESS SLEEP AND THE EARLY MORNINGS, I HAVE GROWN FOND OF THE SERENE MORNING ATMOSPHERE. IN MY DAILY RITUAL LEADING UP TO WALKING INTO THE HOSPITAL I CAN CENTER MYSELF AND REMEMBER THERE IS MORE THAN THE CONCRETE WALLS AND ALARMS THAT AWAIT.



THE OTHER MEDICAL STUDENT ON THE SERVICE IS PRESENTING FIRST TODAY.



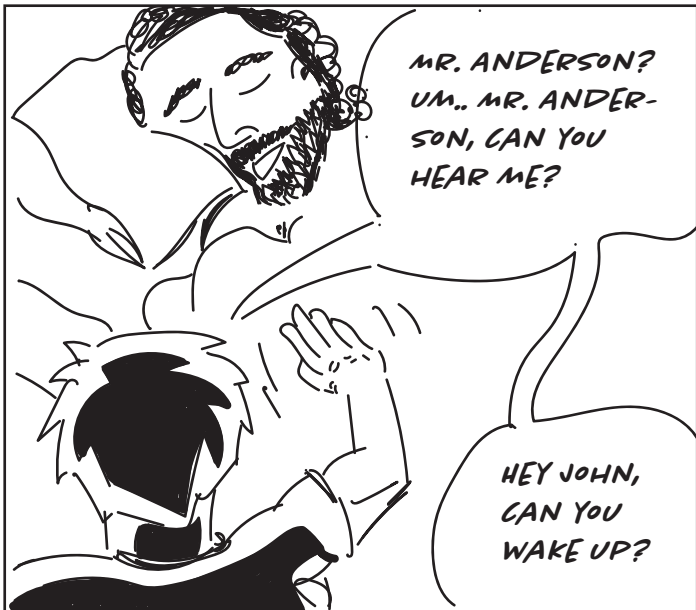
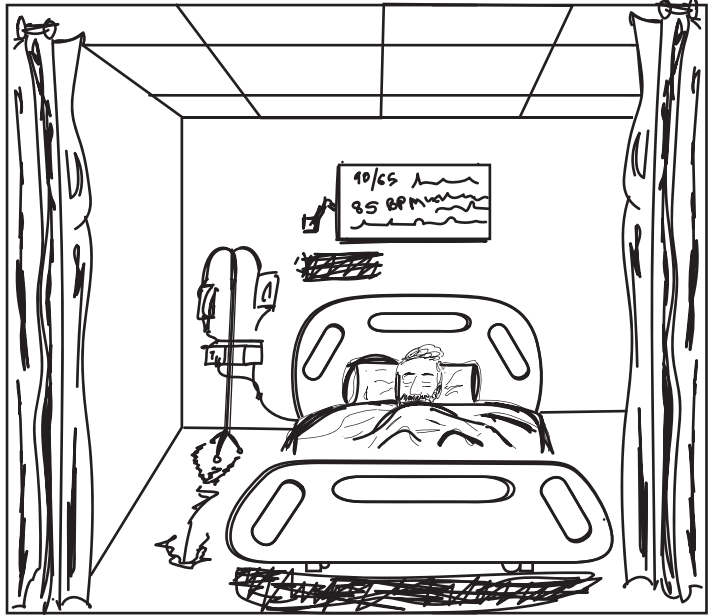
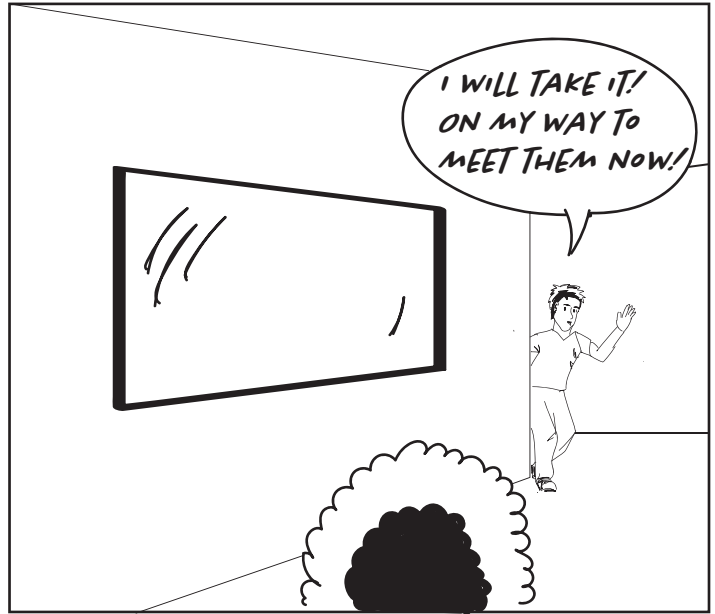


FROM WHAT I HAVE OBSERVED, IT SEEMS LIKE A GOOD PRESENTATION WILL LEAVE THE ATTENDING SPEECHLESS. WHETHER THAT MEANS THE PRESENTATION IS BORING OR PERFECT, NO COMMENTS EQUALS SUCCESS. THAT IS WHY I AM HAPPY TO HAVE THE SIMPLE PATIENTS.

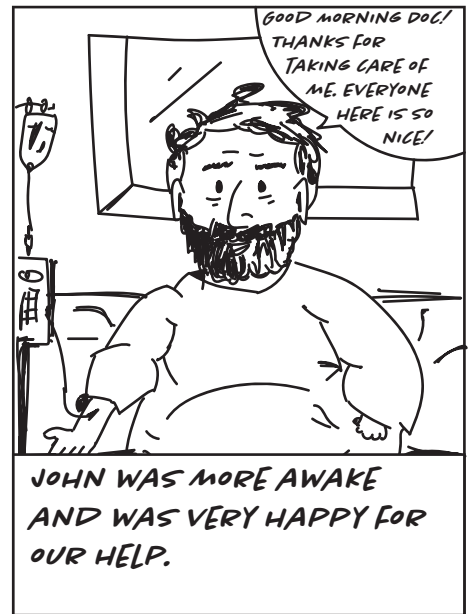
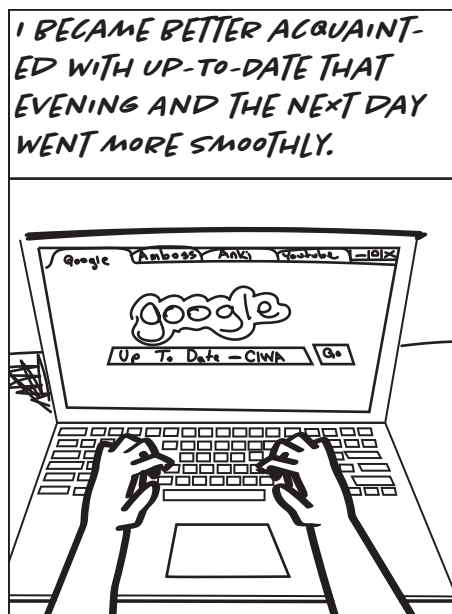
MR. B IS POST OP DAY 3. WE ARE JUST WAITING FOR DISPO PLANNING. NOTHING TO DO FOR NOW.

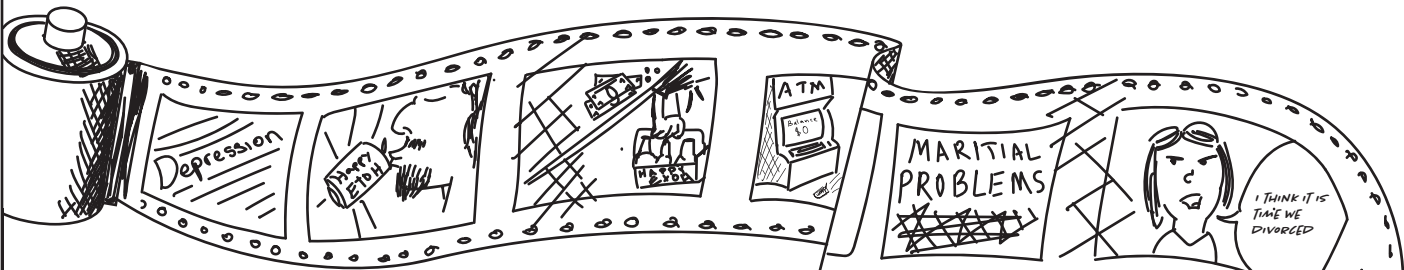
HMM, I WONDER WHAT THE CAFETERIA WILL HAVE FOR LUNCH TODAY.





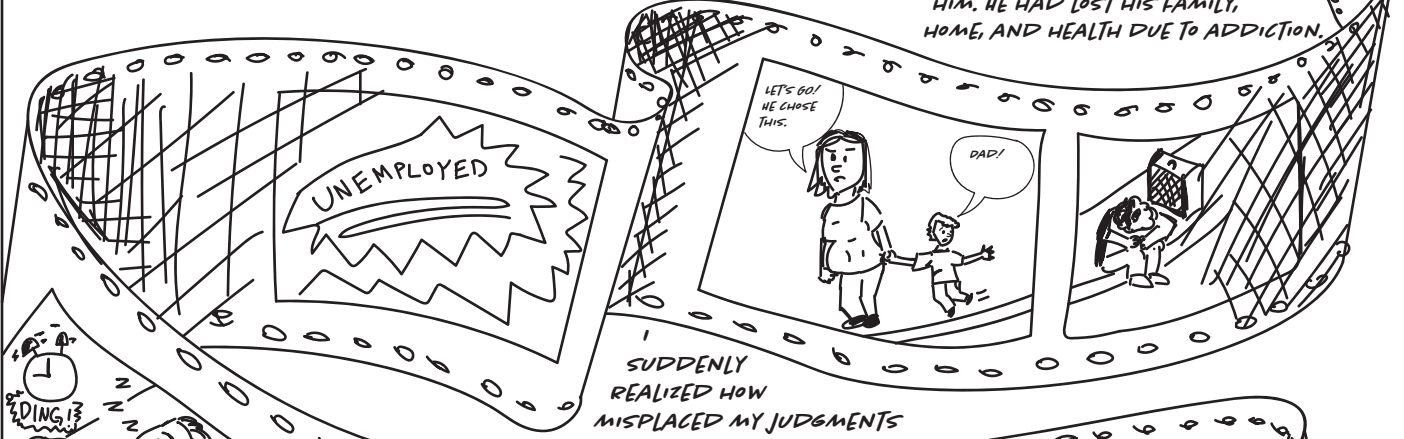
THE MORE I LEARNED, THE MORE I REALIZED HOW COMPLEX OF A PATIENT HE WAS, AND THE MORE I REALIZED HIS PROBLEMS WERE PROBLEMATIC TO LOOKING GOOD AS A MEDICAL STUDENT.





JOHN, WAS VERY OPEN ABOUT HIS PAST. AS HE UNFOLDED HIS LIFE TO ME, I SAW HOW HIS PROBLEMS WERE NOT SOLELY THE RESULT OF POOR CHOICES, BUT FACTORS OUTSIDE OF HIS CONTROL.

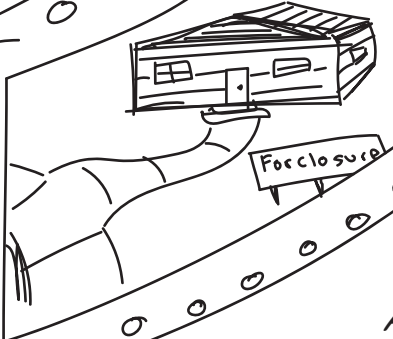
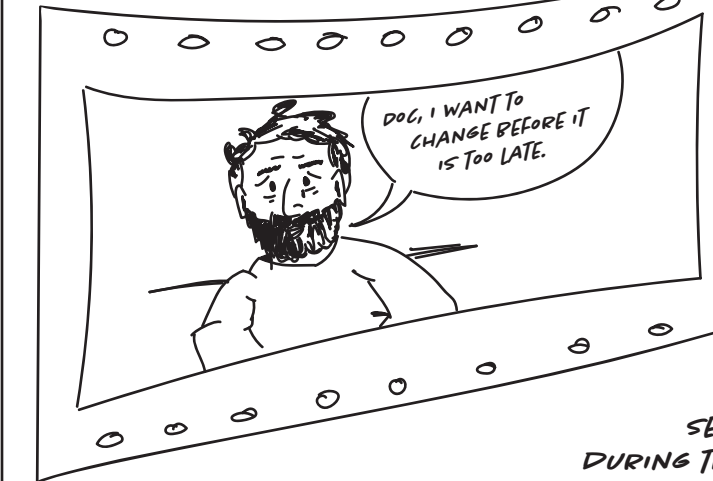
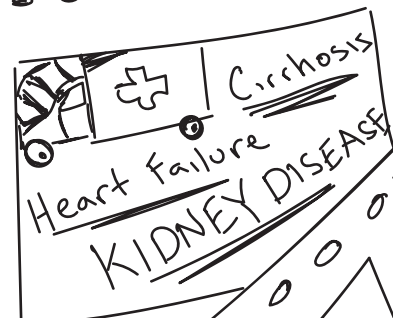
LIFE HAD NOT BEEN EASY FOR HIM. HE HAD LOST HIS FAMILY, HOME, AND HEALTH DUE TO ADDICTION.



I SUDDENLY REALIZED HOW MISPLACED MY JUDGMENTS HAD BEEN.



HAD I NOT QUIPPED THE SAYING "DON'T JUDGE A MAN UNTIL YOU HAVE WALKED A MILE IN HIS SHOES" TO OTHERS? YET THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT I HAD DONE.

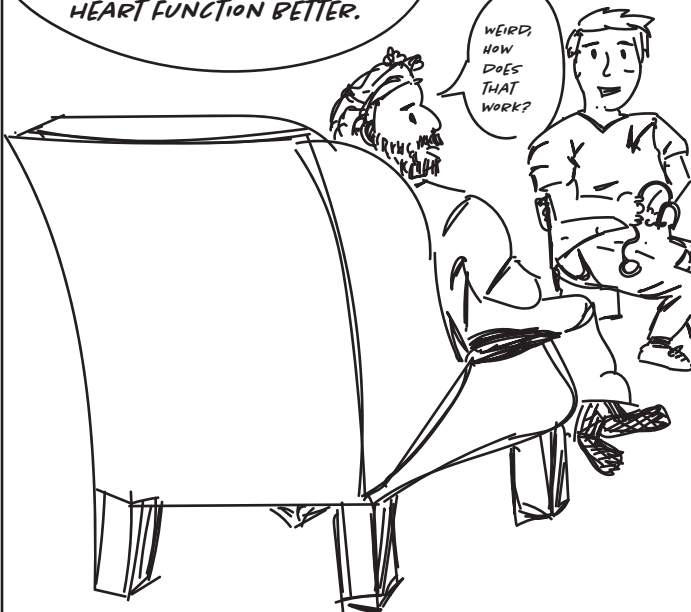


THIS NEW PERSPECTIVE BROUGHT WITH IT A PROFOUND SENSE OF GUILT. I WAS SO CONCERNED ABOUT LOOKING GOOD FOR AN EVALUATION THAT I HAD FORGOTTEN THE CORE OF WHAT MEDICINE IS; . SERVING HUMANS REGARDLESS OF THEIR PAST DURING THEIR MOST VULNERABLE MOMENTS.

AS WE WORKED TO HELP JOHN IMPROVE HIS HEALTH...

TODAY, WE ARE GOING TO WORK ON MAKING YOU PEE LIKE CRAZY TO HELP YOUR HEART FUNCTION BETTER.

WEIRD, HOW DOES THAT WORK?



THAT MAKES SO MUCH MORE SENSE NOW! NO ONE HAS EXPLAINED IT TO ME LIKE THAT

... I WAS MOVED BY HIS EAGERNESS TO LEARN ABOUT HIS CONDITION AND BY HIS DETERMINATION TO CHANGE.



THANK YOU! IT IS GREAT TO HEAR THAT FROM YOU!



I JUST WANTED TO TAKE A MOMENT TO LET YOU KNOW THAT I THINK YOU ARE DOING A GREAT JOB! I HAVE NOTICED HOW HARD YOU HAVE BEEN WORKING AND I APPRECIATE ALL YOU HAVE DONE TO HELP JOHN. YOU WILL BE A GREAT DOCTOR SOMEDAY!

SOON, I FOUND MYSELF LESS CONCERNED WITH LOOKING "GOOD" OR "SMART" AT ROUNDS. INSTEAD, I NOTICED THAT AS I PUT IN THE EFFORT TO CARE FOR MY PATIENTS TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITIES, I NATURALLY STARTED TO IMPROVE IN MY MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE AND IN MY ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR CARE.

I LEFT THAT ROTATION MORE CONFIDENT IN MY CLINICAL ABILITIES, A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF ADDICTION AND THE HUMAN CONDITION, IN ADDITION TO, A NEW COMMITMENT TO HAVE AN OPEN MIND AND TO SEE PATIENTS FOR WHO THEY ARE, NOT JUST FOR THE BAGGAGE THEY CARRY.

