

Bedpan manner

While we chuckled from whimsical banter
I was surprised by my patient's comment
when she stated in a matter-of-fact way,
"You've got a bedpan manner."

The learner,
smirking,
stole a glance my way.

Both,
aware
I was contemplating it.

Reflect,
and I'm sure you will agree,
you've met doctors that remind you of bedpans.

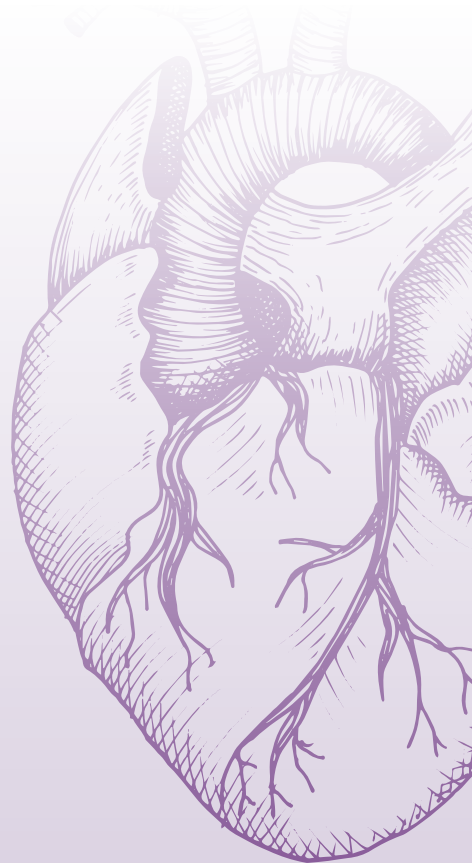
Cold, hard, stainless steel
attitudes;
with poor conductivity,
Minimally porous and reflective.

I was not like them.
I was listening;
Engaged;
Her words seeping into my core.
Plus my perception has always been
that I demonstrate excellent conduct.

Therapeutic relationship?
I thought ...
Asked to clarify,
She was mistaken;
She confused it with my deadpan manner.

Then we laughed and thought of other doctors with
bedpan manners. Then we laughed some more.

—Jeremy Rezmovitz MSc MD CCFP



The importance of diastole

I need a β -blocker or something like it.

My heart is ...
Empty, Drained, Void, Siphoned,
Exhausted, and Depleted

Because at times my empathy ...
Trickles, Oozes, Gushes, Seeps, Dribbles,
and Pours out every day.

Who has time to ...
Reflect, Refill, Recharge, Replenish,
Restore, or Revitalize?

Why is my diastole so short?
My heart needs more rest time.

I need a β -blocker or something like it.

—Jeremy Rezmovitz MSc MD CCFP

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