
Reader comments

DEAR DR. ROBERTS,

I was a regular reader of medical journals during my 37 years of internal medicine practice. When I retired over 3 years ago, I cancelled my subscriptions to the *Annals of Internal Medicine* and *New England Journal of Medicine* (too esoteric), *Archives of Internal Medicine* (too many case reports), and *JAMA* (too socioeconomic). I decided to concentrate on reading history, biography, and fiction, which I did not have time for during practice.

Recently, you have introduced me to the *Baylor University Medical Center Proceedings*. I was not aware of this journal but certainly find it to be very excellent and well balanced with case reports, reviews, and feature articles, and I especially enjoy your interviews and “Facts and ideas.” It will be the only medical journal I plan to read regularly, and I look forward to each issue. Keep up the good work!

—S. ROBERT LATHAN, MD
Atlanta, GA

Editor’s Note: *The following letter was not specifically submitted as a reader comment but shows the reach of Proceedings to those who need the information, both clinicians and the lay public.*

I have written countless letters, opinion pieces, and articles in my lifetime, and all infinitely pale in comparison to the correspondence I am sending you today.

I began my journey at Saint Francis Hospital, and it was determined through an electrophysiology test that I was at risk for an arrhythmia that required the assistance of an implantable cardioverter defibrillator. After this decision I was scheduled the following day for the procedure. I unquestionably owe my well-being and peace of mind to the proficiency of the physi-

cians at the hospital. However, in researching some information regarding the ICD and the suggestions for movement, I came across a study at Baylor with Dr. Jenny Adams et al, entitled “Appropriateness of sling immobilization to prevent lead displacement after pacemaker/implantable cardioverter-defibrillator implantation” (1). Since I had a question or two arising from anxiety regarding proper movement, I decided to e-mail Dr. Adams and ask a question. I can state unequivocally that I have never witnessed competence and expertise tethered with such compassion and respect for the individual. While I have no doubt that this is part and parcel of your mission statement and requisite in all of your staff, Dr. Adams took the time to answer my question and offer substantial advice and positivity through subsequent correspondence. Her supreme technical knowledge and affable demeanor was able to assuage what was otherwise a complicated and tense period into something more manageable and, ultimately, hopeful.

While I am in New York, I would recommend in the highest terms without qualification that others follow suit in regards to seeking out the advice of your employees given the circumstance of my encounter. Any health issue is something extremely personal, and we as lay people place our collective lives in the few hands of those who have made a career in helping others. My wife and I can only thank Dr. Adams for her special brand of care and professionalism.

—CHRISTOPHER DESTEFANO
Commack, NY

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1. Naffe A, Iype M, Easo M, McLeroy SD, Pinaga K, Vish N, Wheelan K, Franklin J, Adams J. Appropriateness of sling immobilization to prevent lead displacement after pacemaker/implantable cardioverter-defibrillator implantation. *Proc (Baylor Univ Med Cent)* 2009;22(1):3–6.