

Dhaliwal U, Singh S. Ethics and curricular competencies during a three-hour poetry workshop for health professionals. *Indian J Med Ethics*.

Supplementary file 2

The point of no return

by Dr Anshu

He's lying there
Lifeless
Tubes emerging from every orifice
Bereft of the dignity
That clothes offer
A careless sheet
Wraps his shriveling body.

In the cold November night
I shiver from the blast from a rickety AC
Despite the layers of the medicated hospital gown wrapped around me.
He would be cold, wouldn't he?

I ask for a blanket to cover him
The nurse on duty raises an arched eyebrow
Purses her thin lips
And grudgingly gets up to find me one.

Why does he need a blanket?
She mumbles under her breath
He's been in a coma for a month, you know?

I know,
I'm a doctor.
But I also know
That he can feel
That he can hear
And that he has to know
That we do care.