

caduceus portrays more than mere heraldry. For the serious practitioner, it would be appropriate to reestablish the staff of Asclepius as the symbol of the health care profession.

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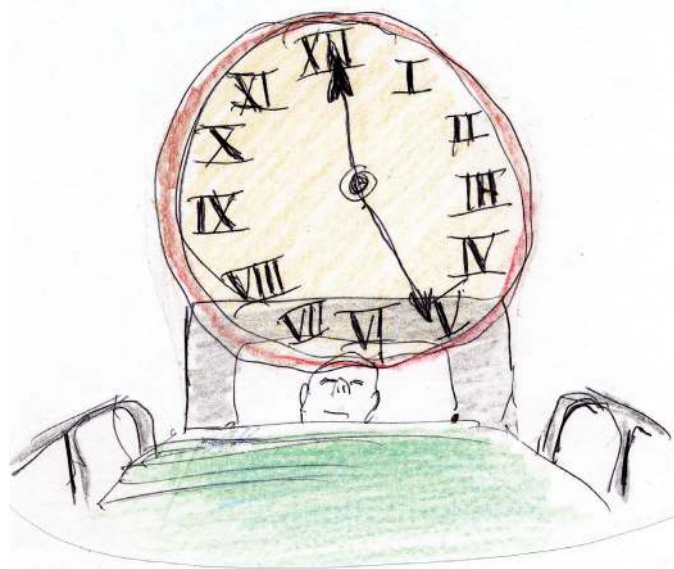
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Palliative Bypass

*Nothing for me to do,
I remind myself
Wrath, wildly scattered
About your abdomen,
Stumbling,
I run past your room.*

*There are no tests to order.
No incisions to make.
No drains to place.
My only calling,
Is to sit by you.
Yet, I bypassed you.*

*Embracing routine,
Procedures melt into each other.
But I cannot find solace.
With scalpel and suture useless
Against time and space,
I seek to find you.*

*Time heavy as lead,
Weighs on your pale face.
Lightly, I sit by you,
Waiting, as eternity whispers
Truth, peacefully,
As you pass me by.*

Amit Khanna, M.D., M.P.H.