

# WHAT IS COVERED?

Lately, I feel I am waiting out the statute of limitations  
On certain recriminations from my medical career.  
But who determines what is covered  
From the alphabet of sins?  
I have abstracted the following medical record numbers  
For your consideration:

(A1290) Arrogance in the face of suffering and doubt  
(B2222) Boredom answering when compassion called  
(C3001) Caring too little—or (C3999) too much  
(D1101) Deciding too soon—or too late (D0101)  
(E1962) Errors uncaught—or (E1963) errors caught but not acknowledged  
(F0000) Failing to listen with silence—or (F8745) with words  
(G7666) Grace sought but not given  
(H5832) Hands washed of responsibility—(H5833) hands unwashed  
(I9880) Intervention replacing careful observation  
(J6666) Jokes to protect the doctor, not heal the patient  
(K1999) Killing acumen with kindness  
(L2957) Lying warmly when the truth could help  
(M6612) Mistaking death for disaster  
(N 3541) Neglecting that nagging detail  
(O8891) Observation replacing courageous intervention

(P7354) Preaching to the choir, or worse, (P7355) preaching to the patient  
(Q9123) Questioning too much—or (Q0123) not loudly enough  
(R0382) Reducing the human whole to broken parts  
(S7770) Sacred spaces made mundane  
(T2957) Truth too cold when supportive lies sufficed  
(U5614) Unforgiving the inevitable  
(V\$\$\$\$) Venal recommendations and  
(W\$\$\$\$) Wealth and comfort in the face of need  
(X8001) Xenophobia when confronted by diversity  
(Y9210) Yielding to the common practice or  
(Z0921) Zebras sought though horses abound.

For those of us hunched over our keyboards,  
The monitor's text blurs the statute's stipulations.  
Perhaps we can agree,  
That though it might not clearly mention them all,  
We may forgive each other these wounds uncovered,  
For now.

Pending utilization review of course.

—Steven M. Asch MD, MPH