

Review of: "Narrative Medicine: Enhancing End-of-Life Care with Literary Stories"

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The original article is on a very pertinent topic for palliative care. I consider it would be important to define the competencies and contributions of doulas in end-of-life care for the patient and family, and even for the health teams that accompany patients. The three novels chosen are totally adequate for the theme under analysis and very relevant, with stories that highlight opportunities to frame death as an introspective, learning, and natural process. However, from my experience as a nurse in a palliative care unit, the narratives can be an excellent resource for introspection, acceptance, or even reconciliation, and can be worked on with the patient by other members of the care team, such as psychologists, and not only by nurses. These, the nurses, perhaps are the professionals with the most limited time to foster and accompany these processes of reflection that lack delivery and dialogue in internalization, due to the inherent workload in nursing care in an acute care unit. The articulation between the various professionals in the multidisciplinary team with distinct competencies could empower and contribute to the integration of this method in palliative care units. Exploring the possibility of volunteers with specific training in narratives working with this method could be a strong contribution, without associated costs, to explore/work on dimensions such as the psychological, familial, spiritual, and sometimes difficult to address, given that teams are sometimes more centered, given the urgency of controlling symptoms resulting from physical problems, given the late referral of patients. I think it would be an important aspect to be explored by the authors in the future. One of the positive aspects of this method is that it can be used by and in people with different ideologies, beliefs, and religions. One suggestion would be for the patient to choose the novel, as the very choice could already be a resource for reflection and conception of death and for preferences and desires regarding the end of their life. Finally, I consider it pertinent to include what the patients' opinion is on the use of this methodology and, consequently, its benefits. Congratulations to the authors, and best wishes for much success.