

## Call for Submissions for “On Being a Pharmacist”

I believe in angels.

It was busy as normal in the satellite on that Wednesday night. I was the only pharmacist servicing three high acuity medicine floors in an urban, academic hospital. Things were under control when the code was called.

“Come on, let’s go!” I urged my third year pharmacy student, who also happened to be one of my technicians that night. She wanted to see what the pharmacist did during a code.

We raced through the hallways and down the stairs, joining many others on their own pursuit to the code. We knew we arrived when we saw a room overflowing with nurses, respiratory therapists, and physicians from many different teams.

Upon entry into the room, I saw that the patient was awake. He was having a heart attack. The physicians were trying to gather information because he had just been admitted from the emergency department.

“Are you having chest pain?”

“Where does it hurt? Does it radiate anywhere?”

“Are you having problems breathing?”

“Can you chew this aspirin?”

The patient lay there speechlessly. All alone.

A nurse cried, “He can’t understand you!”

A physician glanced up from the chart and looked around helplessly. “Does anyone speak Ukrainian?” he shouted.

The room fell silent. People looked at each other.

Beside me came a movement, a voice. My student came forward and said, “I do.”

Your experiences have helped mold you into the pharmacist *and person* you are today. Because these stories are valuable, you are invited to submit your personal pharmacist stories for a book, titled On Being a Pharmacist, being published by the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). We are seeking all types of pharmacy practice stories (humorous, sad, meaningful, amazing, etc) from all areas of pharmacy practice. Stories can be about patients, co-workers, inventory problems, direct patient care, compounding, supervisors, employees, other healthcare personnel, ethical dilemmas, you name it!

All submissions will be considered. If your submission(s) is accepted, a contributor agreement will be emailed to you. Any information in the story must be accurate and cannot contain unlawful, obscene, or libelous material; must not infringe any trade name, trademark, or copyright; and must not invade or violate any right of privacy, personal or proprietary right, or other common law or statutory right. Submissions should be between 50 and 1000 words in length.

Please include your name, email address, degrees, titles, and institutional affiliation with your submission. Upon request, your name and/ or institutional affiliation may be withheld.

Take advantage of this opportunity to share your personal story!

Please send your story and any questions to [pharmacistsstory@hotmail.com](mailto:pharmacistsstory@hotmail.com).

Submission deadline is June 30, 2009.

Many Thanks,

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