The views expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Acknowledgements LK wishes to acknowledge the support of the VA HSR&D Fellowship under which this manuscript has been completed. LB wishes to acknowledge the grant support from the Templeton Spirituality and Psychiatry Award sponsored by the George Washington Institute for Spirituality & Health that supported the development of the Spirituality and Psychiatry curriculum from 2003 to 2005.

Funding this article was written under my fellowship assignment at HSR&D, VA Puget Sound.

Competing interests None.

Provenance and peer review Not commissioned; externally peer reviewed.

REFERENCES

- Ameling A, Povilonis M. Spirituality, meaning, mental health, and nursing. *Psychosoc Nurs Ment Health Serv* 2001;**39**:14–20.
- Anandarajah G, Hight E. Spirituality and medical practice: using the HOPE questions as a practical tool for spiritual assessment. *Am Fam Physician* 2001;**63**:81–9.
- Mueller PS, Plevak DJ, Rummans TA. Religious involvement, spirituality, and medicine: implications for clinical practice. *Mayo Clin Proc* 2001;**76**:1225–35.
- Swinton J, Pattison S. Spirituality. Come all ye faithful. *Health Serv J* 2001;**111**:24–5.
- Puchalski CM, Larson DB. Developing curricula in spirituality and medicine. *Acad Med* 1998;**73**:970–4.
- Fortin AH, Barnett KG. Medical School Curricula in Spirituality and Medicine. *JAMA* 2004;**291**:2883.
- George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Healing [homepage]. Washington, DC. <http://www.gwu.edu/gwih/awards/index.cfm> (accessed 29 Oct 2009).
- Cultural Competence Compendium. American Medical Association. Chicago: The Association, c1995–2003. AMA Med Education Resources. <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/upload/mm/40/05.pdf>.
- Chaudhry HR. Psychiatric care in Asia: spirituality and religious connotations. *Int Rev Psychiatry* 2008;**20**:477–83.
- Sansome RA, Khatain K, Rodenhauer P. The role of religion in psychiatric education: a national survey. *Acad Psychiatry* 1990;**14**:34–8.
- Greasley P, Chiu LF, Gartland M. The concept of spiritual care in mental health nursing. *J Adv Nurs* 2001;**33**:629–37.
- Lewis Harris T, McQuerry J, Raab B, et al. Multicultural Psychiatric Education: Using the DSM-IV-TR Outline for Cultural Formulation to Improve Resident Cultural Competence. *Acad Psychiatry* 2008;**32**:306–12.
- Grabovac A, Ganesan S. Spirituality and Religion in Canadian Psychiatric Residency Training. *Can J Psychiatry* 2003;**48**:171–5.
- American Psychiatric Association. Practice guidelines for the psychiatric evaluation of adults. *Am J Psychiatry* 1995;**152**(Suppl 11):64–80.
- Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. Program Requirements for Residency Training in Psychiatry. http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/downloads/RRR_progReq/400_psychiatry_07012007_u_04122008.pdf (accessed 25 May 2010).
- Larson DB, Lu FG, Swyers JP. A model curriculum for psychiatry residency training programs: religion and spirituality in clinical practice. Revised edn. Rockville, MD: National Institute for Healthcare Research, 1997.
- Comstock GW, Tonascia JA. Education and mortality in Washington County, Maryland. *J Health Soc Behav* 1977;**18**:54–61.
- Frankel BG, Hewitt WE. Religion and well being among Canadian university students: the role of faith groups on campus. *J Sci Stud of Relig* 1994;**33**:62–73.
- Harris RC, Dew MA, Lee A, et al. The role of religion in heart-transplant recipients' long-term health and well-being. *J Relig Health* 1995;**34**:17–32.
- Harris WS, Gowda M, Kolb JW, et al. A randomized, controlled trial of the effects of remote, intercessory prayer on outcomes in patients admitted to the coronary care unit. *Arch Intern Med* 1999;**159**:2273–8.
- Keefe FJ, Affleck G, Lefebvre J, et al. Living with rheumatoid arthritis: The role of daily spirituality and daily religious and spiritual coping. *J Pain* 2001;**2**:101–10.
- Koenig HG. *Is religion good for your health?: effects of religion on mental and physical health*. Binghamton, NY: Haworth Pastoral Press, 1997.
- Larson DB, Koenig HG, Kaplan BH. The impact of religion on men's blood pressure. *J Relig Health* 1989;**28**:265–78.
- Sicher F, Targ E, Moore D, et al. A randomized double-blind study of the effect of distant healing in an advanced AIDS population. *West J Med* 1998;**169**:356–63.
- Targ E. Evaluating distant healing: a research review. *Altern Ther Health M* 1997;**3**:74–8.
- Yates JW, Chalmer BJ, St James P, et al. Religion in patients with advanced cancer. *Med Pediatr Oncol* 1981;**9**:121–8.
- Baetz M, Larson DB, Marcoux G, et al. Canadian psychiatric inpatient religious commitment: an association with mental health. *Can J Psychiatry* 2002;**47**:159–66.
- George L. The health impact of religious and spiritual practices. In: Jonas W, Crawford C, eds. *Healing, intention and energy medicine*. London: Elsevier Science Limited, 2003.
- Sulmasy DP. A biopsychosocial-spiritual model for the care of patients at the end of life. *Gerontologist* 2002;**42**(S3):24–33.

Miscellanea

Wondrous world

I almost lost track
Of the wonders of this world
I got misplaced in the chaos
And disheveled by adulthood
But today I decided
To stop, stare, and breathe
And I sighed in awe
And exhaled in disbelief
I'd begun to ignore
The early morning symphony
Like the sounds of the birds
That whistled from the trees
I'd become annoyed with chill

That christened the morning air
But it is with that chill I explore my senses
Lest that feeling did disappear
I'd become numb to the wondrous light
That speckled the night sky
In my hustle and bustle
To get home and unwind
As a child I use to gaze endlessly at the stars
The reflection and the time reveal who we are
I almost lost track
Of the wonders of this world

Tiffany Brunson

Correspondence to Tiffany Brunson; tbrunson@cdc.gov

Provenance and peer review Not commissioned; not externally peer reviewed.

Accepted 16 April 2010

J Med Ethics; Medical Humanities 2010;**36**:51. doi:10.1136/jmh.2010.004283