Neurocognitive Disorders

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Every patient has a story to tell. Every time a patient walks into the doctor's room, they have a story to narrate. The story of their disease or illness and how it is related to their lives. Signs, symptoms, and their problems cannot be understood completely without taking into account the effect it had on their lives.

Sadly, the medical model which the healthcare industry has been following is in complete opposition to this notion. Simply, a patient is simply prescribed medication once they narrate their story that has proven to be a scourge for them so far. This approach needs to be abandoned.

Rightly, patients, while narrating their suffering, are in search of an answer to their sufferings. When the doctors do not listen properly to their narrative, it shatters them. Without answering to their sufferings completely, doctors cannot influence the course of treatment and its outcome positively.

A doctor that is both caring and competent will try to read between the lines. A gifted doctor tries to connect the dots. These dots are symbols and symptoms that are related to any particular disease or illness. Furthermore, these symbols and symptoms can be entirely understood when taken into account the personal history and cultural background of the patient. No matter what, the problem can be only be answered once the doctor completely understands the story from the patient's perspective

Although there have been instances when this approach failed to yield any positive results, this does not by any means imply that it cannot yield positive results. However, the cases in which the interactions were not yielding results initially turned out to be effectual later on.

Certainly, Arthur Kleinman has rightly argued that without understanding the exact extent of the signs and symptoms of a patient’s illness, it is presumptuous to prescribe a medication to them.

Therefore, it can be concluded that any illness and subsequent suffering cannot be abated without understanding its impact on the patient’s life.