



# Letter to the Editor

## Letter to the Editor: Editorial: How the Words We Use Affect the Care We Deliver

Mustafa Karahan MD

*To the Editor,*

I wanted to congratulate you for discussing such an important topic. I read your editorial with great pleasure.

Words are a reflection of the thoughts and logic of a speaker. I agree with the authors that we, as surgeons,

can influence a patient's decision regarding certain treatment methods just by the words we choose. Beyond changing our words, we should focus on teaching our residents how to approach patients with empathy. Young surgeons should learn early in their residencies that a bad result is

more than a statistical figure on a computer screen. It is important for young surgeons to understand his or her patient's point of view—especially when the patient does not want surgical treatment.

Thank you for bringing up this discussion.

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