ART OF MEDICINE

Robot Comic

Kelly Wang

Abstract

This multipaneled comic follows a woman robot preparing for a breast examination. Oil “leakage” recurs in the comic, suggesting its ethical importance in metaphorically representing a patient’s stress responses.

Figure. Woman of the Household
My aunt accompanied me to the hospital. There wasn't much to do in the waiting area...

...But to wait...

And think...

How did my mom feel when she was sitting here?

Careful!

How do I feel?

What? That's a fail!

Did she have someone to hold her hand?

Ok, I'll just smile and laugh awkwardly. I often do that.

Tell the doctor that your mom is still in treatment if they ask—they don't know it yet.
**Media**
Procreate®.

**Caption**
In the comic, oil leakage from the robot woman is like sweat from a nervous patient. Feelings of anxiety, awkwardness, and grief can be considered in addition to stress from familial and gender expectations stemming from being labeled “woman of the household” upon losing one’s own mother to breast cancer.

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Citation

DOI
10.1001/amajethics.2023.646.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure
The author(s) had no conflicts of interest to disclose.

The viewpoints expressed in this article are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the AMA.