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I, Daniel Polino, am pursuing a career in nursing. A nurse is a healthcare professional which has that one on one time with the patient that a doctor simply does not have the time to do. They not only care for the patient's physical health, but for their mental well-being as well. In other words, they help alleviate the physical and mental suffering of their patients, the patient's families, and those within the community in which the nurse practices in. It is a career that requires a caring touch to help keep for everyone regardless of background as comfortable and content as possible while nurturing them.

I chose this career due to the stories my parents and family have told me of their difficulties while they navigate through the health system during any and just about every illness and emergency. Their struggles in my point of view, could've been easily avoided had there been someone with the ability to communicate to them in their language, as well as talk to them with enough compassion to be patient with them through their doubts and confusion, as well as understand and meet their need for reassurance. These stories, as well as others from many more families, have been the main reason for me having chosen to pursue a career in healthcare.

One of the stories that stuck with me the most was when my mother was going to give birth to me. My parents had just moved to the country and were limited on their ability to speak and understand English. I was the firstborn so neither had any idea of what to do, they arrived at the hospital and the first thing they did was send my mom to a room splitting both my parents up. The nurses there couldn't tell my mother where my father was, nor could they help my father find my mother. They were both very anxious and stressed, and they kept asking my mother questions which she could not answer.

All my mother knew is that nurse after nurse would go in and out of her room, neither of which was able to help her understand anything that they were doing, nor were they able to assist with her stress and pain. Nobody there could communicate with her making her delivery even more unbearable; for example, there was one instance where the doctor had asked to run a test on me, and my mother was never able to understand what it was for or why it was needed, nevertheless what was going to be done. Once it was all over and my parents were sent home they didn't really have any idea of what happened or why the doctors and nurses did what they did.

Another much more current situation strengthens my determination to go into that field is that currently, my grandfather is going through a dysfunctional circumstance in which doctors have found what could be a gauze or towel inside of him, left there from an operation that was done to him twelve years ago. While at the moment, my family is more proficient in speaking and understanding English, they are still having difficulty understanding what steps are going to be taken in order to first alleviate my grandfather, and second find out whether the operation to remove the foreign object will cost our family out of pocket. Nor can we be reassured on the fact of whether there is going to be any compensation. Worst of all he still has not been told how the doctors are going to proceed to remove the foreign object. All of these are doubts that could be solved with a sensitive and considerate touch from a concerned healthcare worker who wants to make a difference within his/her community.

I want to become a nurse to be able to help families like mine avoid going through uncomfortable situations like the one my parents had to go through, and help navigate people going through situations like the one my grandfather is living. As well as being able to show these families a happy positive face which feels truly empathetic to their situation; and wants to help them be as comfortable as possible, by helping them understand everything that is happening to them and around them. Patients are already stressed and going through a difficult time if they are visiting the hospital or any healthcare setting. Therefore I want to show compassion upon them and help put them in as much ease as possible in order to assist them in feeling safer and give them that necessary hope they need for the best possible outcomes of their visit.