Section Editor
Anne W. McCammon,
MD, FAAN

Not Just Yet

Claire J. Creutzfeldt, MD

The left side of my body,
It feels as if it's dead.
My right side says it's time to go,
But I say, *not just yet*.

I tell myself I'm ready.
Remove the trach and PEG.
But when my daughter smiles at me,
I realize, *not just yet*.

I used to think that no one
Would want to live like that.
Now life and love, just on their own,
Seem worth a *not just yet*.

My loved ones ask, "Prognosis?"
The doctors palliate.
I look around the room and hear
My silent scream: "Not yet!"

Correspondence & reprint
requests to Dr. Creutzfeldt:
clairejc@uw.edu

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