

Unit 20 — Medical Slang

Reading: Medical Slang



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A dialogue between two nurses at the nurses' station in the city hospital:

RGN Mary: Hi Sarah, how was your shift?

LPN Sarah: Oh, hello Mary. It was a nightmare, I ended up pulling a double shift and haven't slept in almost 30 hours. And for the last 6 I have been dealing with this goldbrick I'm exhausted!

Mary: Yeah, I remember those days well. Look on the bright side, in less than 6 months you will have completed your RGN training and those days will be behind you.

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Discussion Questions

How would you feel if your nurse / doctor described you as an albatross?

Why do you think so much slang is used in medical language?

Do you agree that doctors look down on nurses? Why/why not?