

## The Student Voice 2017 - Essay Topics

1. Rare disease patients often experience a 'diagnostic odyssey', moving from clinician to clinician, with multiple misdiagnoses and unnecessary tests. Discuss the impact of this experience on the patient and patient-clinician relationships and, along with examples, ideas on how this experience can be improved.
2. With reference to specific rare diseases, case studies or personal experience, discuss the barriers preventing patients from accessing treatment, and how medics and researchers can improve access to treatments and trials in the future.
3. How can more medical students and researchers become involved in rare conditions? What challenges will they need to overcome to be successful?