The Reply

We agree with the comments in the letter to the Editor from Olearczyk. End-of-life care is a difficult subject that many clinicians were not adequately trained to deal with and one that many do not feel comfortable fully addressing. Palliative care is a holistic, symptom-based approach to patients that has been proven to improve quality of life for both terminally ill patients and their caregivers, and can be a cost saver for health care systems. We are both specialists in cardiovascular diseases, and we frequently have dealt with this issue in severe heart failure. This topic was recently addressed in detail by Ghashghaei et al in our last issue, the heart failure issue, of *Progress in Cardiovascular Diseases*, where one of us (RVM) serves on the Editorial Board and the other (CJL) as Editor-in-Chief. We appreciate Olearczyk’s interest in our paper.2

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