Group Reflection: The White Coat and Our Identity

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**Recommended Citation**

Bernard, Alexa; Johnson, Elli; Ferris, Jackson; Lopez, Jose; Hartzell, Susan; Schiff, Theodore; and Fatima, Amanah, "Group Reflection: The White Coat and Our Identity" (2024). *Patient Education Projects*. 881.  
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The White Coat and Our Identity

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Learning Community Group: Brown 11
Reflections on Articles

From the first article, 'Professional Identity Formation,' based on the 4 described stages, please reflect on how you anticipate your professional identity changing during your second year of medical school. What do you have to do to thrive and adapt to address professionalism with patients, peers, and administrators conflicts, as related to your white coat pocket card?

The second article 'Are Physician White Coats Becoming Obsolete...,' reflect on how your white coat makes you feel, and how the white coat makes your patients feel, as related to your white coat pocket card.
Our professional identity formation will continue to develop as we spend more time in medical school. As we learn how to effectively study, are exposed to more patient interactions through P4 volunteering, become accustomed to the Kado process, and gain more autonomy in CEC we begin to understand what type of professional we want to be and we become more comfortable with it. As we gain these experiences our PIF becomes more intrinsically motivated and our true values have a greater effect on it. In order to continue growing as a professional it is important to keep a growth mindset and see each obstacle as an opportunity for growth.

Our white coat was one of the very first items we received as we entered medical school, marking a significant moment in our medical education. Every time we wear our white coat we feel empowered and fortunate to be able to help patients in need and to represent the medical community. While some patients may be intimidated by the white coat, we feel overall that it provides patients with confidence and trust in their doctors.