

1-3-2024

Group Reflection: White Coat and Implicit Bias

Jessica Long

Wayne State University, hm5511@wayne.edu

Jovan Jande

Wayne State University, ga7228@wayne.edu

Krishni Kumaresan

Wayne State University, hn0050@wayne.edu

Mohammad Al-Hadidi

Wayne State University, gn6591@wayne.edu

Molly Dahle

Wayne State University, hk4743@wayne.edu

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.wayne.edu/pat_edu_proj



Part of the [Curriculum and Instruction Commons](#), [Medical Education Commons](#), and the [Public Health Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Long, Jessica; Jande, Jovan; Kumaresan, Krishni; Al-Hadidi, Mohammad; Dahle, Molly; Ruesch, Trevor; and Mohamad-Said, Wassim, "Group Reflection: White Coat and Implicit Bias" (2024). *Patient Education Projects*. 916.

https://digitalcommons.wayne.edu/pat_edu_proj/916

This Infographic is brought to you for free and open access by the Patient Education at DigitalCommons@WayneState. It has been accepted for inclusion in Patient Education Projects by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@WayneState.

Authors

Jessica Long, Jovan Jande, Krishni Kumaresan, Mohammad Al-Hadidi, Molly Dahle, Trevor Ruesch, and Wassim Mohamad-Said

White Coat and Implicit Bias

Authors: Kumaresan, K., Long, J., Reusch, T., Jande, J., Dahle, M;
Al-Hadidi, M

Learning Community Group: Yellow 46



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.



Professional Identity Formation

In the transition between years 1 and 2 of medical school most students also were making the transition between stage 2 to stage 3, growing in their capacity and moving from an individualized approach to education and medicine to a more collaborative effort. However, in year 2 simply remaining in the team oriented stage 3 is not enough. As we progress through our education we all begin to grapple with the idea of our words having power and influence amongst our peers and those outside of the medical realm. Therefore, we all will be making the transition into stage 4, becoming a self identified professional. This transition will require an introspective mindset, focused on personal growth and identity formation. We will begin to determine our own motivations for continuing down this path towards becoming a physician. By determining our own set of morals we will be better able to define our role within the medical hierarchy and be able to better assist during moments of conflict. By applying what our own professional identity determines to be correct we can demonstrate what it means to be professional within the medical community, and help act as a mediator between peers and hospital administrators.



Are Physician White Coats Becoming Obsolete?

We all agree that the white coat is a classic symbol of physicians. Wearing a white coat makes us feel more confident in our identity as physicians-in-training, and it gives us a sense of credibility, confidence, and belonging. Our white coats help patients and colleagues identify us as physicians-in-training, which may help avoid misidentification or implicit bias. From a patient's perspective, someone wearing a white coat may come across as more trustworthy or professional because of its association with physicians. However, some patients may also feel intimidated by or uncomfortable around people wearing the white coat, as it may symbolize previous negative experiences they or their loved ones have had.

