

Embracing the Profession of Medicine

**Be Worthy of Your Patient's
Trust**

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Designated Institutional Official for GME



“Profession” Is The Root of Professionalism

- Profession: an occupation that involves prolonged training and formal qualification
- Regulates itself & upholds ethical standards
- Recognized by society as possessing special knowledge and skills
- Our profession is the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease



ACGME Definition of Professionalism

According to the ACGME, residents *must*:

“Demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles.”

You will accomplish this with:

1. Compassion, integrity, & respect for others
2. Attention to patient needs **superseding self-interest**
3. Respect for patient privacy & autonomy
4. Accountability to patients, society & the profession
5. Sensitivity to diverse patient population



What does it mean to be a Professional?

Professionalism is the basis of **Medicine**

- * It demands placing the interests of patients above those of the physician, setting and maintaining standards of competence and integrity, and providing expert advice to society on matters of health



Why Is This Important?

- Public concerns that physicians are impersonal, dishonest and self-serving
- Corporate transformation of medicine
- Professionalism should form the basis of the social contract between medicine and society
- Patients are more likely to adhere to treatment guidelines if they trust physicians



Medical Professionalism in 2017

- Physicians are closely scrutinized by society
 - Patients can research a physician's record
 - Any disciplinary action is often public record



Contact
provider for
availability

Dr. Manuel Vallejo Jr, MD

Anesthesiology | Male



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Pittsburgh, PA 15213
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Biography

Dr. Manuel Vallejo Jr, MD is an anesthesiology doctor who practices in Pittsburgh, PA. He is 57 years old and has been practicing for 25 years.

Dr. Vallejo Jr's Experience



Experience Match

See how Dr. Vallejo Jr's experience matches your preferences.



Social Media: You represent your profession at all times

- In a word...FACEBOOK
- What is appropriate?
 - What do students, residents, faculty post?
 - use of foul language, controversial subjects
 - negative comments about patients, colleagues, & al.
 - you will be *amazed* at the s**t you'll see
 - you can *destroy* your reputation



Core Tenets of Professionalism

- Adherence to standards
 - accept responsibility for continuity of care
- Empathy & sensitivity to
 - situation, culture, diversity
- Accountability
 - accept responsibility for your behavior and how it impacts patient care
- Commitment
 - improvement of personal character
 - integrity, altruism, empathy



Patient Interactions

- Introduce self & role
- Greet patient
- Show interest in patient's thoughts
- Respectful communication
- Involve patient in decisions
- Show care & concern
- Give appropriate expectations



Steps of Clinical Judgment

1. The **Diagnostic** question – what **IS** wrong with the patient? (Hx, physical exam, PMH, lab results &c.)
2. The **Therapeutic** question – what **CAN** be done for the pt? (informed by scientific evidence)
3. The **Prudential** question – what **SHOULD** be done for the pt – involves individual and diverse considerations



Ten Bits of
Advice That I
Hope Will
Help Make
You a Better
Physician and
Professional



1. Be a Good Role Model

- Students identify residents & fellows as key role models, *not* faculty
- Be positive
- Hold yourself accountable
- Take time to teach
- Treat others the way you want to be treated



2. It's ALL your job



3. Integrity Counts

- Be Honest
- Be accountable...people remember
- Have the courage to speak up – the patient *always* comes first

INTEGRITY
IS DOING THE
RIGHT THING.

EVEN WHEN
NO ONE IS
WATCHING.

C.S. LEWIS



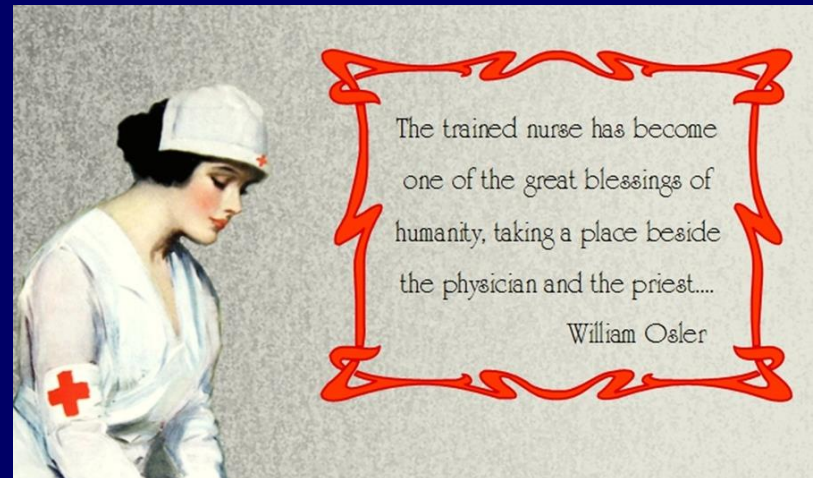
4. Be Humble

- Your first name is *not* “Doctor”
- The **team** comes before any individual member



5. Treat Nurses (& All Staff) with RESPECT!

- They are your *colleagues* in all aspects of patient care
- Not your minions
- If you wish to be treated with respect...
- They will teach you — learn from them



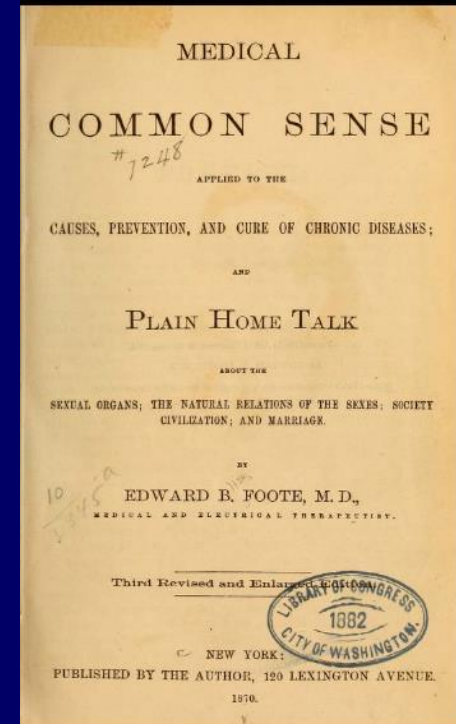
6. STUDY

- No matter how great your bedside manner may be... your eye won't see what your mind doesn't know
- Read
- Go to your department & interdepartmental conferences
- Look for learning opportunities
- Milestones and standards must be met



7. Use Your Common Sense

- Cultivate the habit of regarding every case from the patient's point of view
- Treat patients and not their diseases
- Don't neglect your own ailments

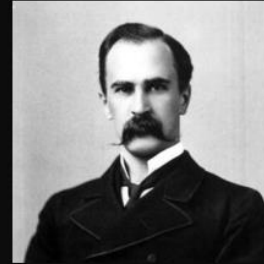


“There can be no greater folly in a physician than to attempt, within the brief period of his mundane existence, to acquire skill in *all* diseases to which mankind is subject.” -- p. 319



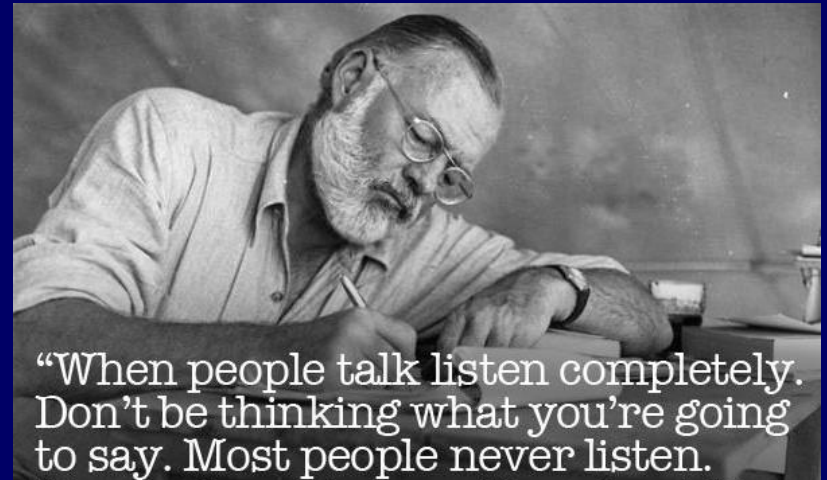
8. Listen When Others Talk

- Patients
- Family members
 - theirs, and *yours*
- Consultants
- Colleagues



Listen to your patient, he is telling you the diagnosis,

~ William Osler



“When people talk listen completely. Don’t be thinking what you’re going to say. Most people never listen.”



9. Admit your mistakes and learn from them



- For physicians, being involved in an error evokes
 - shame
 - humiliation
 - fear
 - panic
 - self-doubt
- Coping mechanisms include
 - denial
 - distancing

...ask for help if you need it or if you see that one of your colleagues does



10. Have High Expectations of Yourself

- What do you expect of yourself ?
- Remember why you entered the medical profession
- You have the choice of being the kind of physician you wish to be
- Reflect, make changes, evolve



Final Thoughts

Resources in GME

- Chief Residents
- Program Manager
- Program Director
- Dr. Vallejo (DIO)
- Dr. Ferrari (Chair of Medical Education)
- Don't hesitate to contact us if we can help you
- Whatever the question, you aren't the first to ask it





Thank You

