Jefferson Scale of Empathy

Health Professions Student version (HPS- version)

Use a ball-point pen. Mark one response for each item below. For ID Code, write numerals completely inside the boxes, one numeral to a box.

Name (optional) ______________________________ ID Code........... [boxes]

Date ___/___/_______ [boxes]

Age:

Gender:
[ ] Male  [ ] Female

What is your degree program?
[ ] Bioscience/Medical technology  [ ] Counseling/Psychology  [ ] Dentistry
[ ] Diagnostic Imaging  [ ] Nursing  [ ] Nurse Practitioner  [ ] Pharmacy
[ ] Occupational Therapy  [ ] Ophthalmology/Optometry  [ ] Public Health
[ ] Physical Therapy  [ ] Physician Assistant
[ ] Other __________________________

Year in this program:
[ ] 1st year  [ ] 2nd year  [ ] 3rd year  [ ] 4th year  [ ] > 4th year

Please leave Optional fields blank unless otherwise instructed.

Optional field #1 .... [boxes]

Optional field #2 .... [boxes]

PLEASE CONTINUE =>=>=>

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Jefferson Scale of Empathy

Health Professions Student version (HPS-version)

Instructions: Using a ball-point pen, please indicate the extent of your agreement or disagreement with each of the following statements by marking the appropriate circle to the right of each statement.

Please use the following 7-point scale (a higher number on the scale indicates more agreement):
Mark one and only one response for each statement.

1-------2-------3-------4-------5-------6-------7

Strongly Disagree .................................................. Strongly Agree

1. Health care providers' understanding of their patients' feelings and the feelings of their patients' families does not influence treatment outcomes. ....................................................

2. Patients feel better when their health care providers understand their feelings. ..............................

3. It is difficult for a health care provider to view things from patients' perspectives. ............................

4. Understanding body language is as important as verbal communication in health care provider - patient relationships. ............................................................................................

5. A health care provider's sense of humor contributes to a better clinical outcome. ..............................

6. Because people are different, it is difficult to see things from patients' perspectives. ....................

7. Attention to patients' emotions is not important in patient interview. ...........................................

8. Attentiveness to patients' personal experiences does not influence treatment outcomes. ...............

9. Health care providers should try to stand in their patients' shoes when providing care to them. ..............................................................................................................................

10. Patients value a health care provider's understanding of their feelings which is therapeutic in its own right. ............................................................................................................

11. Patients' illnesses can be cured only by targeted treatment; therefore, health care providers' emotional ties with their patients do not have a significant influence in treatment outcomes. ..........................................................................................................................

12. Asking patients about what is happening in their personal lives is not helpful in understanding their physical complaints. .................................................................

13. Health care providers should try to understand what is going on in their patients' minds by paying attention to their non-verbal cues and body language........................................

14. I believe that emotion has no place in the treatment of medical illness. ......................................

15. Empathy is a therapeutic skill without which a health care provider's success is limited. ............

16. Health care providers' understanding of the emotional status of their patients, as well as that of their families is one important component of the health care provider - patient relationship.................................................................

17. Health care providers should try to think like their patients in order to render better care. ............

18. Health care providers should not allow themselves to be influenced by strong personal bonds between their patients and their family members. ............................................

19. I do not enjoy reading non-medical literature or the arts..............................................................

20. I believe that empathy is an important factor in patients' treatment. ...........................................

THANK YOU!