

Recap of Exercises 1 and 2

Exercise #1:

In the first exercise of the forum, we asked attendees to rank 10 statements from most to least important based on what they believe defines a professional clinician. We encouraged everyone to consider this from their perspective as a clinician, patient, and/or family member.

Across the entire group, the three most important values for whole room were:

1. Adhering to high ethical and moral standards, including honesty and integrity.
2. Demonstrating a continuing commitment to competence and excellence.
3. Promoting justice and equity in the healthcare system.

Adhering to high ethical and moral standards, including honesty and integrity.	91%
Demonstrating a continuing commitment to competence and excellence.	76%
Promoting justice and equity in the healthcare system.	52%
Navigating complexity and uncertainty in medical decision-making	50%
Protecting patient confidentiality and empowering patients to make informed decisions.	49%
Improving access to and quality of care.	48%
Exercising accountability and managing conflicts of interest.	43%
Subordinating one's self-interests to the interest of patients.	34%
Holding colleagues to professional standards and reporting violations.	28%
Balancing professional responsibilities with personal well-being.	24%

When analyzing the results by role, the top two values remained consistent across most groups. However, the third most important value varied:

- **Students, residents and trainees** ranked *improving access to and quality of care* as the third most important value.
- **Healthcare professionals** chose *protecting patient confidentiality and empowering patients to make informed decisions* as the third most important value.
- **Academic and research professionals** and **leadership, policy, and advocacy professionals** were aligned and chose *navigating complexity and uncertainty in medical decision-making* as their third most important value.
- **Media and communications professionals** identified both *adhering to high ethical and moral standards, including honesty and integrity* and *promoting justice and equity in the healthcare system* as their top values. There was a three-way tie for the second most important value: *demonstrating a continuing commitment to competence and excellence*, *holding colleagues to professional standards and reporting violations*, and *improving access to and quality of care*.

Exercise #2:

In the second exercise, we asked attendees to work with their tablemates to rewrite a value that they found challenging in today's context or propose a new value that reflects the evolving realities of medical professionalism. After reviewing the responses, we identified the following themes:

- **Demonstrate Compassion, Empathy and Humanism during interactions with patients and colleagues:** Many responses indicated that compassion, empathy and overall humanism was lacking in the original list of values provided during the first exercise. This compassion and empathy were not just for patients but should also be a part of conversations and interactions with colleagues. Embedding compassion and empathy throughout all professional relationships would foster a supportive environment benefiting both healthcare teams and patients.
- **Put patients and communities at the center:** Consensus emerged around prioritizing the needs of patients above profit motives and personal beliefs. Responses emphasized that the clinician-patient relationship is sacrosanct and must be protected, especially in the face of increasing corporatization in medicine. Re-centering care on patients will help us build equitable, responsive, and trustworthy systems.
- **Exercise your agency and professional responsibility to improve the healthcare system:** Several responses called on physicians to take ownership of their roles as agents of change within the healthcare system. This includes advocating on behalf of patients, holding themselves and peers accountable for acting with integrity, and actively dismantling systems, incentives or structures that perpetuate health inequities. Exercising professional agency is critical to driving meaningful and sustainable improvements in the healthcare system.
- Lastly, **building and sustaining trust with patients and communities.** Trust emerged as a foundational value underpinning compassionate and effective care. Respondents noted that many of the suggested changes aimed to improve trust, recognizing that practicing transparency, upholding confidentiality, and actively listening in clinical encounters were critical not only to fostering and maintaining trust, but to providing ethical, compassionate care.