

# Patients care about the clothes doctors wear

July 19 2018

---



(HealthDay)—Patients do in fact care what doctors wear, according to a study recently published in *BMJ Open*.

Christopher M. Petrilli, M.D., from the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System in Michigan, and colleagues conducted a survey among a convenience sample of 4,062 patients recruited from 10 [academic medical centers](#) between June 2015 and October 2016. The authors sought to determine whether physician attire can affect the [patient experience](#) and how this influences patient satisfaction.

The researchers found that 53 percent of respondents indicated that physician attire was important to them during care, with more than one-third agreeing that it influenced their satisfaction with care. Formal attire with a [white coat](#) was most highly rated ( $P = 0.001$  versus scrubs with white coat and  $P$

"Patients have important expectations and perceptions for physician dress that vary by context and region," the authors write. "Nuanced policies addressing physician dress code to improve [patient satisfaction](#) appear important."

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text](#)

Copyright © 2018 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: Patients care about the clothes doctors wear (2018, July 19) retrieved 28 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-07-patients-doctors.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.
---