

Exploring patient perception of scrub attire

January 13 2023



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Fourth-year UNC School of Medicine student Casey Hribar, who is also pursuing an MBA at Carolina, led research on patient perceptions associated with scrub color, and published the findings in a *JAMA Surgery* research letter.

The researchers examined whether scrub color is associated with the ability to be perceived as a surgeon and the perception of selected clinician character traits.

Doctors wearing green scrubs were most strongly recognized as [surgeons](#), while black scrubs were not highly thought of; some patients associated black scrubs with death.

Other authors are Carolyn Quinsey, MD, assistant professor of pediatric neurosurgery, Martin Piazza, MD, a resident in the UNC Department of Neurosurgery, and a former UNC epidemiologist Avinash Chandran, Ph.D., now at the Datalys Center for Sports Injury, Research and Prevention, Inc. in Indiana.

More information: Casey A. Hribar et al, Association Between Patient Perception of Surgeons and Color of Scrub Attire, *JAMA Surgery* (2023). [DOI: 10.1001/jamasurg.2022.5837](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamasurg.2022.5837)

Provided by University of North Carolina School of Medicine

Citation: Exploring patient perception of scrub attire (2023, January 13) retrieved 21 July 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2023-01-exploring-patient-perception-attire.html>

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