

AIMS Medical Science, 10(4): 329-342.

DOI: 10.3934/medsci.2023026 Received: 04 September 2023 Revised: 08 November 2023 Accepted: 09 November 2023 Published: 05 December 2023

http://www.aimspress.com/journal/medicalScience

## Research article

Empathy before entering practice: A qualitative study on drivers of empathy in healthcare professionals from the perspective of medical students

Yun Ying Ho<sup>1,\*</sup>, Laurence Tan<sup>2,\*</sup>, Chou Chuen Yu<sup>3</sup>, Mai Khanh Le<sup>3</sup>, Tanya Tierney<sup>4</sup> and James Alvin Low<sup>2,3</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> MOH Holdings, Singapore
- <sup>2</sup> Department of Geriatric Medicine, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, Singapore
- <sup>3</sup> Geriatric Education and Research Institute, Singapore
- <sup>4</sup> Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- \* Correspondence: Email: yunying.ho@mohh.com.sg, tan.laurence.lc@ktph.com.sg.

Appendix 1. Valuing empathy as important.

Quotes on valuing empathy	Components of empathy
"So personally I feel er for myself, empathy is important to us	Valuing affective empathy
We need to feel before we can actually understand them."	
"I think replicating the act of empathizing, of being empathise	Valuing empathy as a whole
(empathetic) is important."	
"If we all believe that understanding patient's story is so	Valuing cognitive empathy
important so that we can empathize right, then we have to find	
other means."	
"it's so important then we really have to find the time to	Valuing cognitive empathy
dedicate to understanding our patient more and really find ways	
to, to do that."	
"role of empathy definitely very important, but whether it is	Valuing moral empathy
being thought of—I mean, it's—it's a— it's a very personal thing,	
there is no one to say like oh, um, uh, to— there's no right and	
wrong for this um, like whether you're showing too much, too	
little, it's very hard to say so"	



© 2023 the Author(s), licensee AIMS Press. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0)