



Professionalism in Surgery Crucial Skills for Attendings and Residents

Mark S. Hochberg, MD*, Russell S. Berman, MD,
H. Leon Pachter, MD

Department of Surgery, New York University School of Medicine, 550 First Avenue, NBV 15
North1, New York, NY 10016, USA

Keywords

- Professionalism • Surgical residents • Surgical attendings • Communication skills
- Interpersonal communication • SPICE • Surgical education

Key points

- Teaching professionalism in surgical residency programs is a relatively recent development; historically, conducting oneself as a surgeon was based on the apprenticeship model.
- As departments of surgery nationwide become more diverse in every way, professionalism and communication skills are far more relevant and crucial.
- As surgeons we must embrace, teach and practice professionalism and interpersonal communication at a very high level.
- Future success in surgery will require real understanding and daily use of professionalism skills in interactions with our patients.

INTRODUCTION

How surgeons conduct themselves with colleagues, trainees, hospital staff—and most important—patients may well determine their surgical success far more than their clinical and technical abilities. We all know from our training and practice brilliant clinicians and dazzling surgeons who have failed to achieve success. The common denominator for these failures is their inability to communicate and interact in a respectful and productive manner with fellow professionals. This is referred to in the lay press as a lack of “emotional intelligence.”

In medicine, these skills have come to be known as professionalism. They are not inherently coded in our DNA. Rather, these skills are frequently

The authors have nothing to disclose and have no conflicts.

*Corresponding author. Department of Surgery, New York University, NBV15 N1, 550 First Avenue, New York, NY 10016. *E-mail address:* Mark.Hochberg@nyumc.org

learned behavior. In the past, some of this learned or modeled behavior ;came from senior surgeons whose example was anything but professional.

There are many definitions of professionalism. We define surgical professionalism as: teaching and practicing humility, hope, and humanity with our colleagues and patients.

In 2002, the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) mandated that all physicians carry out our professional responsibilities adhering to ethical principles coupled with sensitivity to our diverse patient populations. The 6 ACGME competencies are now the cornerstone of surgical training for medical students, surgical residents and faculty:

- Patient care,
- Medical knowledge,
- Practice-based learning and improvement,
- Interpersonal and communication skills,
- Professionalism, and
- Systems-based practice.

It is our belief that professionalism skills can be taught and learned by attendings, residents, and medical students in a manner similar to the way we teach and learn the clinical and technical aspects of surgery.

The New York School of Medicine Department of Surgery created more than 10 years ago a professionalism and communication curriculum with the goal of fulfilling the 2 ACGME competencies of professionalism and interpersonal/communication skills. Our 7-session professionalism curriculum has been developed and delivered to our surgical residency training programs across the United States. In 2015, our curriculum was incorporated into the American Board of Surgery's SCORE national resident curriculum. Our curriculum is known by its acronym SPICE (Surgical Professionalism and Interpersonal Communication Education).

We have extensively evaluated and assessed the ability of New York University (NYU)'s surgical resident to understand and incorporate our professionalism curriculum into their daily practice. We have validated the SPICE curriculum at NYU using objective structured clinical examinations (OSCEs) with standardized patients. The results of these OSCE evaluations of the SPICE curriculum have been extensively reported and noted below in our Relevant Literature.

What we have learned is that not only can we change the attitudes of our surgical residents' professionalism through our annual curriculum, but we can also change the entire culture of professionalism in our department of surgery. This change in attitude affects the professional interactions among colleagues, residents, fellow health professionals and patients.

The NYU SPICE Curriculum consists of seven 1-hour interactive seminars for surgical residents focusing on the following topics:

1. Advanced Communication Skills for Surgical Practice—How the Pros Do It
2. Team Respect—Working With Professionals Around You
3. Admitting Mistakes—Ethical Choices and Reasoning

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/5730958>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/5730958>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)