

## HUMS' dress code in clinical setting

Students have freedom of choice in how they dress. However, when students are functioning as medical professionals, with either clinical patients or simulated patients, or in-classroom in nonclinical settings, the outfit must be appropriate and professional. A professional image increases credibility and safety while fostering patient trust, respect and confidence. Non-adherence to the dress code can have negative effects on patient care and could diminish the reputation of the University, as well affiliated hospitals and clinics. Specific questions regarding these guidelines should first be addressed with the appropriate clinical coordinator or course director.

This documents sets forth standards for dress and appearance necessary to meet the service and safety objectives of placing the patient's welfare first and the educational objectives of preparing the student to assume the role of a professional health care worker. Patient trust and confidence in the health care provider are essential to successful treatment experiences and outcomes. The message communicated by the caregiver by his/her dress and appearance plays a fundamental role in establishing this trust and confidence.

### General standards

- Names badges identifying you as a medical student must be worn at all times and clearly visible to those with whom you are interacting.
- Students are required to carry their student ID card in clinical settings all the time. This card includes the initial letter of their first and last name, title, school, and study program.
- Good personal hygiene is to be maintained at all times. This includes regular bathing, use of deodorants/antiperspirants, and regular dental hygiene.
- Avoid distracting perfumes or colognes (may precipitate allergies or sensitivities).
- Cosmetics should NOT be worn even in moderation.
- Avoid chewing gum in clinical settings.
- Avoid smoking in clinical settings.

## **Dress, Shoes, and Hand Care**

- In general, medical students should wear their own clothes with the white coat (rather than scrubs) for patient care assignments in clinics and when performing inpatient service. Scrubs must be worn in compliance with the policies of the institution in which the medical student is assigned for patient care rotations. White coats should, however, always be clean, neat and tidy, comfortable, long, suitable for the season, buttoned and display HUMS' logo. They should never be worn in public places outside the clinical care facility. Scrubs may only be worn in specific patient care areas. If scrubs must be worn outside of the designated clinical area, they should be covered with a white coat. Scrubs should not be taken home without prior written authorization from the providing institution.
- Stained or soiled scrub suits or white coats must be changed as soon as possible they are sources of contamination.
- Shoes must be comfortable, clean, in good repair and appropriate to the job functions and duties. Flip-flops, slippers, or open-toed shoes/sandals are NOT allowed in the patient-care setting.
- Tight pants and white coats with improper colors should be avoided.
- Avoid wearing T-shirts, and sports suits which display improper words and images.
- Keep your nails short, clean and without nail polish. Due to the increased risk of infection and the possibility of hurting patients, long or artificial nails are forbidden.
- Students should wear appropriate socks and avoid appearing in the clinical settings without wearing socks.

## **Hair Maintenance**

- Female students should wear scarves covering the entire hair.
- For female students, any form of clothing that covers the whole face is prohibited.
- For female students, the head-cover should properly cover the head and should not reveal the hair, neck, chest and shoulders.
- Male students should not have hair longer than normal length. It must be neatly groomed and clean. Hair color and any style must be appropriate for the clinical work environment.

## **Jewelry**

- Avoid wearing jewelries including bracelets, necklaces, bangles, gold rings (this does not include wedding rings). Wedding rings must be small enough to allow for the use of gloves, with no risk of tearing.