

Family Medicine Survey

Some questions ask for opinions rather than facts. Answer honestly. If you are not sure, give it your best guess.

Please respond to these statements by marking:

SD: strongly disagree D: disagree U: unsure A: agree SA: strongly agree

1. To give good care, it is important to consider each patient in the context of his or her family.....SD D U A SA
2. The U.S. would provide better for its people if more medical students chose primary care.....SD D U A SA
3. Family physicians provide only a small fraction of all health care delivered in the U.S.....SD D U A SA
4. Research to improve health happens very often in primary care settings.....SD D U A SA
5. Family medicine requires knowledge that a subspecialist practice may not.....SD D U A SA
6. The U.S. health care system can only work well with family physicians playing an integral part.....SD D U A SA
7. In the U.S., people don't rely on family physicians when they are very sick.....SD D U A SA
8. Family physicians can usually decide how much they want to work.....SD D U A SA
9. The U.S. has a very serious shortage of primary care physicians.....SD D U A SA
10. Knowledge of family interactions is important in treating individual patients.....SD D U A SA
11. Research-oriented students should probably not consider family medicine careers.....SD D U A SA
12. Family physicians enjoy their work.....SD D U A SA
13. Family medicine provides a physician with enough income to live well.....SD D U A SA
14. Family physicians' work is complex and interesting.....SD D U A SA

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						A	B
1) To give good care, it is important to consider each patient in the context of his or her family.....	SD	D	U	A	SA		
2) The U.S. would provide better for its people if more medical students chose primary care.....	SD	D	U	A	SA		
3) Family physicians provide only a small fraction of all health care delivered in the U.S.....	SD	D	U	A	SA		
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12) Family physicians enjoy their work.....	SD	D	U	A	SA		
13) Family medicine provides a physician with enough income to live well.....	SD	D	U	A	SA		
14) Family physicians' work is complex and interesting.....	SD	D	U	A	SA		
						sum column A	sum column B
						Total (A+B) =	

About the Family Medicine Attitudes Instrument: The instrument was developed by Julie Phillips, MD, MPH^a; Jacob Prunuske, MD, MSPH^b; Laurie Fitzpatrick^a; and Brian Mavis, PhD.^a (^aMichigan State University College of Human Medicine; ^bMedical College of Wisconsin). Scored responses to the instrument have been strongly correlated with family medicine career choice among fourth year medical students in the United States. The instrument has demonstrated internal, external, and content validity. It has not yet been tested in other populations.

Use of the Family Medicine Attitudes Instrument: The instrument is available with or without a scoring system embedded. The instrument may be copied and used, without charge, by not-for-profit organizations for evaluation of medical student curricula. The instrument may be modified to meet the needs of the users in developing and evaluating medical student curricula (i.e., omitting questions, converting to an electronic format). Results of these evaluations may be presented and published in educational and research forums. The authors should be contacted for permission to use the instrument for any other purpose, including any use for profit. We welcome your feedback about the instrument. The corresponding author, Julie Phillips, may be contacted at julie.phillips@hc.msu.edu.

We request that the instrument be cited when used. Two citations are available:

- Phillips J, Prunuske J, Fitzpatrick L, Mavis B. Initial Development and Validation of a Family Medicine Attitudes Questionnaire. Family Medicine. In press. (describes an earlier version of the instrument)
- Phillips J, Prunuske J, Fitzpatrick L, Morley C, Wendling A, Mavis B. Development and Validation of a Family Medicine Attitudes Questionnaire. North American Primary Care Research Group Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada; November 19, 2017.

Scoring the Instrument:

- The instrument is scored using a simple sum, in which all questions are weighted evenly. HOWEVER, Items 3, 7, and 11 are negatively worded (a lower answer corresponds to a higher score) and must be reversed in scoring as described below.
- Individual item responses (for items 3, 7, and 11) are scored as follows in Column B:
 - SD = 5, D = 4, U = 3, A = 2, SA = 1
- All other individual item responses are scored as follows for items in Column A:
 - SD = 1, D = 2, U = 3, A = 4, SA = 5
- To score the instrument:
 1. For items 3, 7, and 11, place the individual item response score number in Column B. (E.g. If SD is circled, place 5 in column B; if SA is circled, place 1 in column B, etc.)
 2. For all other items, place the individual item response score number in Column A. (E.g. If SD is circled, place 1 in column B; if SA is circled, place 5 in column A)
 3. Sum Column A.
 4. Sum Column B.
 5. Sum Columns A & B to get the instrument score.

A higher score indicates a more positive attitude toward family medicine and a higher likelihood of choosing a family medicine career.