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# **Canadian Medical Education Journal**

## From curiosity to cure De la curiosité à la guérison

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Artist statement

From a young age, many children dream of becoming doctors or surgeons. There's a powerful allure to the image of the white coat, the stethoscope, and the promise of healing. Such aspirations can be traced back to a combination of innate curiosity, societal influence, and the inherent desire to make a difference. Firstly, children are naturally curious beings.<sup>1</sup> They engage with the world around them, asking questions about how things work and why. The human body, being one of the most intricate systems, sparks wonder in many young minds. They're intrigued by cuts that heal, broken bones that mend, and

the rhythmic heartbeat that indicates life. As they grow older and start to understand the fragility of health, the idea of understanding and influencing these processes becomes a compelling dream. Familial and societal influences also play a pivotal role.<sup>2</sup> The portrayal of doctors and surgeons in media as heroes, saving lives against all odds, further fuels these aspirations. Children see them as figures of authority, knowledge, and compassion, who are often revered in the community. This admiration can motivate children to pursue medicine, seeing it as a profession that combines respect with purpose. Lastly, at the core of this aspiration is the genuine desire to make a difference. Children have an innate sense of justice and kindness.<sup>3</sup> They wish to alleviate pain, cure diseases, and restore health. The idea of being in a position where one can directly influence someone's well-being and potentially save lives is deeply enticing. In conclusion, the dream of becoming a doctor or a surgeon is a profound reflection of a child's curiosity, societal inspirations, and the deepseated wish to bring about positive change in the lives of others. It's a dream that underscores the beauty of human ambition and the desire to serve.

#### Media

"From curiosity to cure" was created by the generative artificial intelligence software Midjourney. The subjects are fictional and do not depict real persons.

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