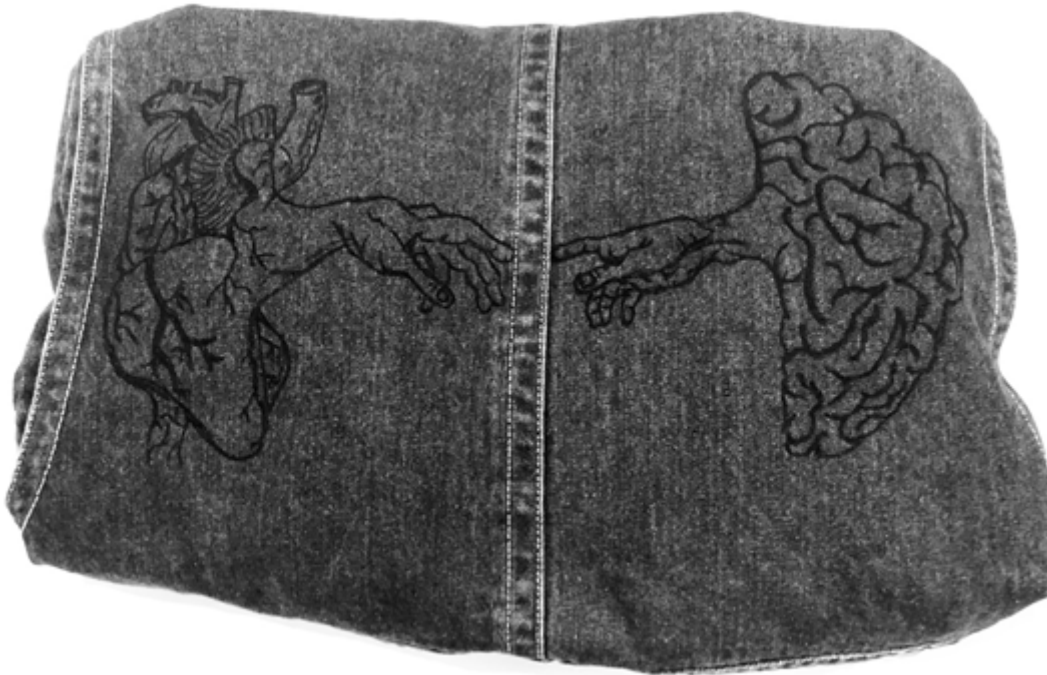


The Art of Medicine

Andrew Samuel BSc *

Max Rady College of Medicine, University of Manitoba
727 McDermot Avenue, Winnipeg, R3E 3P5



The Creation of Empathy and Intelligence

This piece represents the relationship between empathy and intelligence. It was inspired by my friend and colleague Philip Kawalec after suggesting making an art piece to represent empathy versus intelligence. To expand, throughout history, medicine has been deemed one of the most prestigious professions as physicians have been regarded as the healers of society. In the past, however, medicine stemmed from paternalistic foundations where physicians told patients what was best for them and patients primarily obeyed because of the status quo held by physicians. Yet, in today's medical world, empathy (as represented by the heart) has met intelligence (as represented by the brain). Hence, the proficient physician is not only intelligent, but is more importantly empathetic. Accordingly, empathy has transformed medicine into a patient-centered care profession by allowing physicians to truly consider and reflect upon patient situations, values, and overall beliefs. With that being said, I'll leave you with a quote to reflect upon:

“No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care”
– Theodore Roosevelt.

*correspondence to: samuela5@myumanitoba.ca



Walk the walk

This piece represents humans' perceptions of self, circumstances, and others as such perspectives influence how an individual's heart grows. A narrow perspective may hinder understanding, whereas that of a wide lens may encourage growth. The proficient practitioner is one that exemplifies compassion, intelligence, and a desire to connect with the individual patient. As future physicians, we will likely be overworked and constantly busy. Yet, we must remind ourselves that patients embody more than their ailments. They hold desires, passions, and connections, much like us, that make them human past their hindering medical conditions. Such factors, much like the eye incorporated into the heart and the skull separated from the body, will serve as a reminder to be cognisant of what we allow to influence our perspectives. Ultimately, the truly proficient physician must treat the patient, rather than just the disease.