

Misrepresenting Race

The Role of Medical Schools in Propagating Physician Bias

"Race is not a meaningful scientific construct in the absence of context, rather, it is a social category that reflects the impact of unequal social experiences on health."



Key Domains Educators misrepresent race



- Use of generalized terminology that does not reflect biological lineage.
- Lack of consideration of social and historical context when looking at prevalence of disease in race.
- Tendency to overgeneralize linking minorities with pathologies

What should we do?

- Integrate a holistic understanding of health disparities that emphasize the dynamic interplay between biology and environment into medical curriculum.
- Discuss antecedents of disease comprehensively could help students strategically recognize race-based patterns without perceiving them as absolute of biologic differences.

