

Portable knowledge: a look inside
white coat pockets.

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Portable Knowledge: A Look Inside White Coat Pockets

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FULL TEXT



A 1990 European study showed that 72% of hospital physicians and students wore white coats. The top three reasons, in descending order, were to allow easy recognition by colleagues and patients, to carry items in pockets, and to keep clothes clean (1). White coats clearly identify medical staff, and differences in the styles of coats often distinguish among levels of training. Many medical schools have white coat ceremonies as part of orientation for first-year students, providing these novices with the symbolic costume of the physician. Of note, the ample size of the pockets has made the carrying of the traditional black bag—a symbol of medicine for decades—obsolete.

FULL TEXT



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