

Book Review - All Physicians Lead. Redefining Physician Leadership for Better Patient Outcomes

Dr. Leon E. Moores, 2024 by ForbesBooks. ISBN 9798887501659

As a physician leader in the latter stages of my career, I was pleased to be asked to read and review this book. The premise is a sound one, that all physicians find themselves as leaders throughout their careers, either by default through their medical practice or by taking on administrative leadership roles in their institutions of work. As the author points out quite correctly, leadership skills are something that can and should be taught early in a physician's training. This therefore, is a book I wish I had read at medical school or shortly after graduating.

Aside from the military and surgical spin which runs through the book and proved mild distracting (the author after all served in the armed forces), the content is well structured, first starting with the "Why" of physician leadership before introducing a neat visual of the concentric circles of leadership with "self" at the centre, expanding outwards to incorporate leading another, leading teams and then organizations. Towards the end, the author gives more practical strategies for physician leaders which nicely rounds out the book.

Although I found little new or enlightening content in the book personally, I am conscious that the book was not aimed at me, an experienced physician leader of many years. I imagine that a new medical school graduate or a physician suddenly thrust into a new leadership role would find many more "light bulb" moments here. This, along with the sound structure of the book's content and the useful real-life scenario illustrations that start each chapter, pace the reader well through the content and makes for an overall enjoyable and informative read. I shall be recommending this book to the medical students I encounter in my workplace and not just the ones that are interested in leadership. Congratulations should go to the author Dr. Moores for writing a book that fills an important gap in medical student education and for writing a book I wish I had read 30 years ago.

Who should read this book?

Medical students, newly graduating physicians or physicians entering their first leadership role. Don't make the same leadership mistakes as everyone else.

Recommended? Yes 4/5*

Shyr Chui