

<b>Document title</b>	KMMS Dress Code for Students
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## **Dress Code for KMMS Students**

### **1. Introduction**

The KMMS dress code has been designed to ensure:

- Patients feel confident they are being seen by a team of professionals.
- All patients and visitors feel their beliefs are respected. Age group, ethnic origin, religion can influence patients' views on dress, and it is important not to cause unintended offence or upset to anyone.
- Infection and safety risks are minimised.

The scope of this document refers to the clinical environment, specialist teaching spaces and interactions with patients/simulated patients.

### **2. Presentation and appearance**

Working in a clinical environment and meeting patients will bring you into contact with many different people. This includes interactions which occur in, or simulate, the clinical environment such as in skills training, the OSCEs and Case Based Discussions. The following rules apply:

- You will be issued with a photo identification badge indicating that you are a medical student, which you should always wear when you are in the clinical environment.
- You should always dress smartly when in a clinical environment and when meeting patients.
- You should also ensure that you maintain high standards of cleanliness and personal hygiene and that you do not wear strong smelling perfumes or aftershaves, nor have an offensive body odour.
- Jewellery should be kept to a minimum. Dangling earrings or dangling facial piercing are not appropriate and should be removed.
- Wrist watches, bracelets and other than plain rings are not permitted.
- Neck or ankle chains should not be visible.

- Hair below the collar or obscuring the face that makes eye contact difficult should be tied or secured back.
- Dress must be tidy, clean and presentable.
- Nails must be kept short. False nails and nail varnish must not be worn.

### **3. Clothing**

- As a rule, students should wear shirts/blouses and should wear smart trousers or skirt, or a smart dress. Please note that, due to the risk of infection, ties or scarves should not be worn.
- All KMMS students should follow Trust policy with regard to infection control and working 'bare below the elbow'. During clinical work, short sleeves are preferred but if necessary, long sleeves may be rolled up neatly.
- Short skirts, dresses or trousers are unacceptable.
- Trousers should be tailored and smart.
- Vest-style or 'strappy' tops, low cut tops or cropped tops, T shirts or polo shirts are not acceptable.
- Surgical scrubs or other provided attire must only be worn in the appropriate clinical environment and when authorised.
- Health Education England and the British Medical Association note the importance of verbal and non-verbal communication and recommend that your face must be fully visible for the purposes of recognition and clinical communication with patients and staff. Head dresses worn as part of religious observance must not cover the face.
- KMMS respects equality and diversity within its student body. If you feel that you may have difficulty complying with this code, please contact KMMS Student Life and Wellbeing.
- Shoes should be neat, clean and practical. Shoes should enclose the whole foot and be plain to facilitate cleaning. Open toe shoes or sandals are not permitted.
- Comfortable footwear is important but trainers are not acceptable.
- Theatre-style clogs must not be worn outside of the critical care setting.

The clinical colleagues you are working with or member of their staff is entitled to ask you to leave if they do not consider your appearance to be acceptable, and this will be recorded as an absence.

If you are in any doubt what you should wear in a given clinical setting, it is best to ask the doctor in charge for advice.