Glass ceiling for ethnic minority doctors?

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We have enjoyed your series on the “movers and shakers of medicine” over the past year.¹ However, few of those interviewed are international medical graduates or from a black or minority ethnic group. Our analysis of the 45 medically qualified doctors interviewed found that only three (7%) were from black or minority ethnic groups and that only one (2%) was an international medical graduate from a low or middle income country.

While not claiming to be a representative sample, it does highlight the under-representation of these ethnic minority groups at the highest rungs of UK medicine. A perceived lack of role models may further hamper the ambition of future generations of doctors from these groups. Perhaps The BMJ could lead the way in reflecting achievements of a more diverse selection of the medical workforce?

Competing interests: None declared.

¹ BMJ Confidential. Alan Maryon-Davis: remarkably cheerful, considering. BMJ 2014;349:g6467. (29 October.)

Cite this as: BMJ 2014;349:g7084
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