Road to reconciliation: cultivating cultural sensitivity in physical therapy practice through relationship and reflection

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Purpose

To reflect on our attitudes, beliefs, and experiences as physical therapy students volunteering in an interprofessional student-run clinic aimed at providing services to marginalized, primarily indigenous persons in one of Saskatoon’s core neighborhoods.
Methods

Autoethnography - a qualitative research method through self-reflection and writing to explore personal experiences and connect it to wider cultural, political, and social meanings and understanding
Conclusions

Through interactions with the SWITCH community, the following professional and personal traits were developed:

- Empathy & Compassion
- Implicit attitudes
- Indigenous cultures
- Social determinants of health
- Culturally sensitive practice
- Patient-practitioner relationship
- Interprofessionalism and holistic care
- Experiential learning