

# Motivating and educating health professionals to work in less attractive specialties

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## Propositions

Accompanying the dissertation

### **Motivating and educating health professionals to work in less attractive specialties: Findings from Vietnam**, by Nguyen Thi Van Anh, Maastricht, 2nd

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1. Students make their choices for preventive medicine without being sufficiently informed about this specialty (this dissertation).
2. In their ambition to become a preventive medical doctor, first-choice students are driven by extrinsic factors while second-choice students are drawn to a study in preventive medicine by intrinsic reasons (this dissertation).
3. As medical education has an important effect on specialty choices of students and graduates, a stronger orientation on the tasks of preventive medical doctors offers a potential solution for the health-worker shortage in this less attractive specialty (this dissertation).
4. Providing professional support in the form of relevant educational activities can contribute to reducing isolation and increasing retention among doctors in less attractive specialties (this dissertation).
5. The knowledge and experience that medical students gain during placements in clinical practice helps them develop more realistic perceptions of a particular specialty.
6. If students lack autonomous motivation for a specialty, educators should encourage students' integration of their identities, interests and values to get the most developmentally advanced form of controlled motivation.
7. Application of participatory design and co-creation is vital to engage all relevant stakeholders in education and to ensure effectiveness of the respective activities in "anchoring" the learners' commitment.
8. *"The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity"* - Dorothy Parker.
9. *"Just because my dreams are different than yours, it doesn't mean they're unimportant"* - Louisa May Alcott, from her novel "Little Women".
10. *"To reap a return in ten years, plant trees. To reap a return in one hundred, cultivate the people"* - Ho Chi Minh.