

Unit 2.2: What your doctor won't disclose

E  **1.8 WATCH FOR MAIN IDEAS** Read these quotes from Wen's talk. Then watch the edited TED Talk. Number the quotes in the order you hear them. Finally, work in a small group and discuss which four of the quotes illustrate Wen's main ideas.

- _____ *"Being totally transparent is scary. You feel naked, exposed, and vulnerable, but that vulnerability, that humility, it can be an extraordinary benefit to the practice of medicine."*
- _____ *"People want to know about their doctors first so that they can make an informed choice. As a result of this, I formed a campaign, Who's My Doctor?, that calls for total transparency in medicine."*
- _____ *"Research has shown us that openness also helps doctors, that having open medical records, being willing to talk about medical errors, will increase patient trust."*
- _____ *"Suhavi Tucker and Laura Johns literally took their research to the streets. They went to banks, coffee shops, senior centers, Chinese restaurants, and train stations."*
- _____ *"When it comes to medicine, having that trust is a must, and when that trust is gone, then all that's left is fear."*
- _____ *"Well, we all have that childhood hero that we want to grow up to be just like, right? Well, I wanted to be just like Dr. Sam."*

F  **1.9 WATCH FOR DETAILS** Read the information about Wen's *Who's My Doctor?* campaign for transparency in medicine. Choose the best word from the box to complete each sentence. One word won't be used. Then watch segment 1 of the edited TED Talk and check your answers.

huge medical public surprising total voluntary

Leana Wen's campaign calls for _____¹ transparency in medicine. Participating doctors can disclose information such as where they did their _____² training. They can also disclose their specialty, conflicts of interest, and how they get paid. The information that doctors choose to disclose is posted on a _____³ Web site. Doctors do not need to participate in the campaign because it is entirely _____⁴. Despite this, there was a _____⁵ backlash from some doctors when the campaign began.

G  **1.8 WATCH FOR MULTIPLE VIEWPOINTS** Watch the edited TED Talk again. Match the viewpoints to the groups of people. Two viewpoints match one group.

1. _____ One or both of Leana Wen's parents
 2. _____ Respondents in Wen's research study
 3. _____ Doctors who are against Wen's campaign
 4. _____ Patients who want doctors to be transparent
 5. _____ Physicians participating in Wen's campaign
- a. I don't want to tell my patients my income because they don't tell me the same information.
 - b. I feel being a transparent doctor has helped me develop a better relationship with patients.
 - c. I hope that my doctor uses science and evidence as the basis for his or her decisions.
 - d. I think doctors should disclose conflicts of interest since lawyers and politicians must also do this.
 - e. I want to know about my doctor's values because my relationship with my doctor should be close.
 - f. I worry that my doctor prescribed medicine that benefits him financially but may not benefit me.

H INTERPRET FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE Work with a partner. Read this excerpt from Wen's TED Talk. Then discuss your answers to the questions.

"Doctors are scared, too. We're scared of patients finding out who we are and what medicine is all about. And so, what do we do? We put on our white coats and we hide behind them. Of course, the more we hide, the more people want to know what it is that we're hiding. The more fear then spirals into mistrust and poor medical care. Can we bridge this disconnect between what patients need and what doctors do? Can we overcome the sickness of fear?"

1. What does Wen mean when she says, "We put on our white coats and we hide behind them"?
 - a. White coats separate doctors from patients as they represent the authority that doctors have.
 - b. Doctors believe that their white coats will limit the number of questions that patients ask.
2. What does Wen mean when she says, "Fear then spirals into mistrust and poor medical care"?
 - a. Fear and mistrust are more often caused by poor medical care than by other factors.
 - b. Fear leads to mistrust which leads to poor medical care which leads back to more fear.
3. What does Wen mean when she asks, "Can we bridge this disconnect?"
 - a. Can we discover a way to connect two or more unrelated things?
 - b. Can we build a link to join things that are currently separated?
4. What does Wen mean when she refers to a "sickness of fear"?
 - a. Fear can spread and affect other people.
 - b. Fear can cause people to feel physically ill.