

## Careerism

**Careerism** is the practice of prioritizing personal career advancement above all else — often at the expense of integrity, truth, or the collective good.

In academic and medical contexts, it refers to:

\*The pursuit of titles, promotions, publications, or prestige-driven accomplishments that serve one's own professional image rather than the actual advancement of knowledge, patient care, or institutional purpose.\*

### Examples in neurosurgery or academia

- Publishing for the sake of metrics rather than substance
- Attending or organizing conferences mainly for visibility or networking, not for real learning
- Aligning with dominant views not out of conviction, but to maintain status or funding

**Careerism is when the ladder becomes more important than the destination.**

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