

# Self-Confidence

Confidence has a common meaning of a certainty about handling something, such as work, family, social events, or relationships.

Some have ascribed confidence as a state of being certain either that a hypothesis or prediction is correct or that a chosen course of action is the best or most effective. [Self-confidence](#) is having confidence in one's self. [Arrogance](#) or hubris in this comparison is having unmerited confidence – believing something or someone is capable or correct when they are not. Overconfidence or presumptuousness is excessive belief in someone (or something) succeeding, without any regard for failure. Confidence can be a self-fulfilling prophecy as those without it may fail or not try because they lack it and those with it may succeed because they have it rather than because of an innate ability.

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[Neurosurgery](#) requires certain personality traits to provide the best possible [outcomes](#) for patients. This stems from the fact that neurosurgery is one of the most complex forms of surgery and therefore demands a high level of [skill](#), [precision](#), [confidence](#), and [leadership](#) capabilities. However, certain personalities and associated attitudes may be harmful to [patients](#) and could result in inferior [outcomes](#). The belief that certain [personality](#) traits could result in potentially dangerous [outcomes](#) was first recognized in aviation, as “Arrogance got more pilots in trouble than faulty equipment” <sup>1)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup>

Yeager C, Janos L. Yeager. New York, NY, USA: Bantam; 1985

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