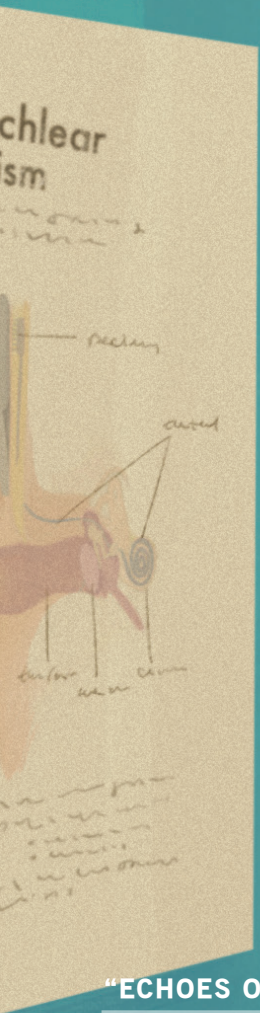


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“ECHOES OF REPRESENTATION”

The representation of diverse bodies in medical illustrations has been consistently lacking throughout history. Medical textbooks, posters, and scientific models all tend to depict the white male body as the standard. In contrast, bodies of those who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC), fat, or disabled, are significantly underrepresented. In a 2021 study by Massie et al., it was found that just 18% of the medical images from the *New England Journal of Medicine* depicted non-white skins.¹ It is necessary to improve diversity in medical illustrations in order to render medical education of both providers and patients more equitable for the underrepresented populations.

1. Massie JP, Cho DY, Kneib CJ, Sousa JD, Morrison SD, Friedrich JB. A Picture of Modern Medicine: Race and Visual Representation in Medical Literature. *J Natl Med Assoc.* 2021 Feb;113(1):88–94. Available from: doi:10.1016/j.jnma.2020.07.013.

