

The Proust Questionnaire has its origins in a parlor game popularized by Marcel Proust, the French essayist and novelist, who believed that, in answering these questions, an individual reveals his or her true nature.



**What profession might you have pursued, if not for medicine?**

Food critic.

**Which talent would you most like to have?**

Writing skills, so I can write food columns and restaurant reviews well.

**What do you consider your greatest achievement?**

Raising our children with my wife.

**Who are your heroes?**

Billy Graham, who is authentic, dedicated, passionate, and faithful; Judge Judy, who has an uncanny ability to cut through deceptions to uncover the truth of the cases; and Sir William Osler, an observant, inspiring teacher.

**On what occasion do you lie?**

When filling out surveys like this one.

**What is your idea of perfect happiness?**

To desire what I already have.

Dr Ho is a practising emergency medicine specialist in Vancouver. He is the director of the eHealth Strategy Office at UBC, and a professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine.

## Proust questionnaire: Kendall Ho, MD

**What is your greatest fear?**

Unknowingly giving the wrong therapy to a patient.

**What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?**

I like eating too much.

**What characteristic do your favorite patients share?**

The desire to help themselves get better.

**Which living physician do you most admire?**

Dr Bill Gunn, retired director of the disaster division of the World Health Organization.

**What is your favorite activity?**

Walking on a beautiful sunny day, and being able to think freely without any work or time pressure.

**What is your most marked characteristic?**

I like to imagine and think of possibilities.

**Who are your favorite writers?**

Gum Yung (Chinese kung fu novel

writer), James Collins, and Mitch Albom.

**Which words or phrases do you most overuse?**

“Of course.”

**What do you most value in your colleagues?**

Willingness to brainstorm and work together.

**What technological medical advance do you most anticipate?**

Personalized medicine linked with e-health to resolve the debate of “nature versus nurture.”

**What is your greatest regret?**

Not teaching my children Chinese when they were young.

**How would you like to die?**

Not knowing how, and then it happens.

**What is your motto?**

“To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8.

**Submit a Proust Questionnaire**—your colleagues will appreciate it.



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