Thank you
To God
For blessing me with this opportunity
To the patients and the relatives
For sharing your stories, hopes, and fears
For letting me learn through your lives and your bodies
Your generosity will always resonate with me
To my teachers (the lecturers, the professors, and even the scary consultants)
For your immense knowledge, humour, and kindness

For showing me the art behind the science
I hope I can be as good as you one day
To the other healthcare professionals
For teaching me humility
For sharing your wealth of experience with me
My profession would not function without yours
To the community and society at large
For training and teaching me for the last six years
For providing a fantastic healthcare system to learn and work in
I will serve you as best I can

Thank you
To Wikipedia and Google
For being invaluable sources of information
To Facebook
For being a welcome distraction
To my friends from med school
For practising histories and examinations with me
For hot chocolates when stressed or avoiding work
Here’s to a great journey

Thank you from a medical student
Mariam Parwaiz
To the new friends I met through a myriad of extracurricular activities
For your passion and enthusiasm
For your dedication to others and the community
I hope our paths keep intersecting

To my friends and family
For making me the person I am today
For believing in me
Your support has meant a lot

To my partner
For being there every step of the way
For all the adventures we had along the way
For listening to my gory medical stories even when you didn’t want to (and letting me practise on you)
You know I couldn’t have done it with you

Thank you

Mariam Parwaiz

I wrote this poem in November 2012, two weeks before I started work as a ‘doctor’. I had been thinking a lot about the previous six years and wanted to express my thanks to everyone who had been a part of it. Though this poem was written over four years ago now, I read it from time to time as it helps me reflect on an important phase of the medical journey that we all as doctors have been through.

Acting DiTC Chair Mariam Parwaiz is a public health trainee based in Auckland.