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Level 3

Women are better doctors but get paid less

23rd December, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

A new study from Harvard University shows that female doctors are slightly better than their male colleagues, but get paid less. Researchers looked at more than three million medical records. Around half of these (1.5 million) were hospitalizations, and the other half were for readmissions (people who had to stay in hospital a second time). The percentage of hospital patients who had to return to hospital, or who died, was lower if the doctor was female. Mortality rates (the number of people who died) were 15.02 per cent and readmissions rates were 11.07 per cent for female doctors, compared with 15.57 per cent mortality and 11.49 per cent readmission rates for patients of male doctors.

The researchers did not give a reason why women provided better care to patients than men. However, researcher Dr. Ashish Jha did give a figure for the number of lives that could be saved in the USA if male doctors performed as well as female doctors. Dr Jha said: "We estimate that approximately 32,000 fewer patients would die if male physicians could achieve the same [results] as female physicians every year." He also said that it was wrong that men got paid more than women, especially because women were better at their jobs. Dr Jha added: "We need to understand why these differences exist...and figure out how to translate it to the [wider] population of physicians."

Sources: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/female-doctors-outperform-male-counterparts_us_58596b31e4b0b3ddfd8ef29e
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/female-doctors-may-be-better-for-older-patients-health/>
<http://www.livescience.com/57262-hospital-patients-with-female-doctors-have-lower-death-risk.html>

WARM-UPS

1. DOCTORS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about doctors. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

study / slightly / paid / million / medical / records / mortality / female / patients / researchers / reason / care / figure / estimate / approximately / wrong / population

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. FEMALE DOCTORS: Students A **strongly** believe female doctors provide better medical care than male doctors; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. HOW?: How would a man and a woman be best at doing these jobs? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Man	Woman
Doctor		
Soldier		
Sales assistant		
Software developer		
Lawyer		
Gardener		

5. PAY: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "pay". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. WOMAN IS BETTER: Rank these with your partner. Put the jobs in which a woman is better than a man at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- country's president
- chef
- software developer
- judge
- comedian
- police officer
- teacher
- hair stylist

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. A new study says women are much better doctors than men. **T / F**
- b. Researchers looked at over 3,000,000 medical records. **T / F**
- c. Mortality rates were higher for the patients of female doctors. **T / F**
- d. Readmission rates were lowest for patients of male doctors. **T / F**
- e. Researchers explained why women were better doctors. **T / F**
- f. If men worked as well as female doctors, 32,000 fewer people would die. **T / F**
- g. A researcher said it was not OK for male doctors to get paid more. **T / F**
- h. The researcher said we needed to understand why there were differences. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. study | a. passed away |
| 2. slightly | b. did |
| 3. return | c. death |
| 4. died | d. cause |
| 5. mortality | e. a little |
| 6. reason | f. particularly |
| 7. provided | g. report |
| 8. performed | h. understand |
| 9. especially | i. gave |
| 10. figure out | j. go back |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. female doctors are slightly | a. was female |
| 2. their male | b. of male doctors |
| 3. people who had to stay in hospital | c. got paid more |
| 4. lower if the doctor | d. colleagues |
| 5. readmission rates for patients | e. care to patients |
| 6. The researchers did not give a | f. a second time |
| 7. women provided better | g. exist |
| 8. the number of lives that could | h. better |
| 9. it was wrong that men | i. be saved |
| 10. understand why these differences | j. reason why |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

A new study from Harvard University shows that female doctors are (1) _____ better than their male colleagues, but get (2) _____ less. Researchers looked at more than three million medical (3) _____. Around half of these (1.5 million) were hospitalizations, and the other half were for readmissions (people who had to stay in hospital a (4) _____ time). The percentage of hospital patients who had to return to hospital, or who died, was (5) _____ if the doctor was female. Mortality (6) _____ (the number of people who died) were 15.02 per cent and readmissions rates were 11.07 per cent for female doctors, (7) _____ with 15.57 per cent mortality and 11.49 per cent readmission rates for (8) _____ of male doctors.

second
compared
paid
patients
slightly
lower
records
rates

The researchers did not give a (9) _____ why women provided better (10) _____ to patients than men. However, researcher Dr. Ashish Jha did give a (11) _____ for the number of lives that could be saved in the USA if male doctors (12) _____ as well as female doctors. Dr Jha said: "We estimate that approximately 32,000 fewer patients would die if male physicians could (13) _____ the same [results] as female physicians every year." He also said that it was wrong that men got paid more than women, (14) _____ because women were better at their jobs. Dr Jha added: "We need to understand why these (15) _____ exist...and figure out how to translate it to the [wider] (16) _____ of physicians."

performed
especially
reason
population
figure
achieve
differences
care

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

- 1) female doctors are slightly better than their _____
 - a. male colleagues
 - b. male colleges
 - c. male collages
 - d. male call leagues
- 2) Researchers looked at more than three million _____
 - a. medical recordings
 - b. medical recorders
 - c. medical records
 - d. medical real chords
- 3) the other half were for readmissions (people who had to stay in hospital _____)
 - a. a seconds timed
 - b. a second times
 - c. a second time
 - d. a seconded time
- 4) The percentage of hospital patients who had to _____
 - a. returning to hospital
 - b. returned to hospital
 - c. returns to hospital
 - d. return to hospital
- 5) compared with 15.57 per cent mortality and 11.49 per cent readmission _____
 - a. rates for patience
 - b. rates for patients
 - c. rates for patently
 - d. rates for patents
- 6) The researchers did not give a reason why women _____ care
 - a. provided butter
 - b. provides better
 - c. provided better
 - d. provide it butter
- 7) Dr. Ashish Jha did give a figure for the number of lives that _____
 - a. could be saves
 - b. could be shaved
 - c. could be sieved
 - d. could be saved
- 8) 32,000 fewer patients would die if male physicians could achieve _____
 - a. the same results
 - b. the same result
 - c. the same resultant
 - d. the same insults
- 9) wrong that men got paid more than women, especially because women were _____
 - a. better at them jobs
 - b. better at their jobs
 - c. better at they jobs
 - d. better at there jobs
- 10) Dr Jha added: "We need to understand why these _____."
 - a. differences existing
 - b. differences existed
 - c. differences exists
 - d. differences exist

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

A new study from Harvard University shows that female (1) _____ better than their male colleagues, but get paid less. Researchers looked at more than three million (2) _____. Around half of these (1.5 million) were hospitalizations, (3) _____ were for readmissions (people who had to stay in hospital a second time). (4) _____ hospital patients who had to return to hospital, or who died, was lower if the doctor was female. (5) _____ (the number of people who died) were 15.02 per cent and readmissions rates were 11.07 per cent for female doctors, compared with 15.57 per cent mortality and 11.49 per cent readmission rates (6) _____ male doctors.

The researchers did not (7) _____ why women provided better care to patients than men. However, researcher Dr. Ashish Jha did (8) _____ the number of lives that could be saved in the USA if male doctors (9) _____ well as female doctors. Dr Jha said: "We estimate that approximately 32,000 fewer patients would die if male physicians (10) _____ the same [results] as female physicians every year." He also said that it was wrong that men got paid more than women, (11) _____ women were better at their jobs. Dr Jha added: "We need to understand why these differences exist...and figure out how to translate (12) _____ population of physicians."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

1. Which university conducted the study?
2. How many medical records did the university look at?
3. What percentage of the medical records were for readmissions?
4. What was the mortality rate for patients of female doctors?
5. What was the readmission rate for patients of male doctors?
6. What reason did researchers give for female doctors being better?
7. How many lives could be saved each year in the USA?
8. What did Dr Jha say was wrong?
9. What did Dr Jha say women were better at?
10. What did Dr Jha say we needed to find out?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

- 1) Which university conducted the study?
 - a) Yale
 - b) Harvard
 - c) Stanford
 - d) Princeton
- 2) How many medical records did the university look at?
 - a) 30,000,000
 - b) 300,000
 - c) just under 3 million
 - d) over 3 million
- 3) What percentage of the medical records were for readmissions?
 - a) 50%
 - b) 75%
 - c) 33%
 - d) 25%
- 4) What was the mortality rate for patients of female doctors?
 - a) 11.49
 - b) 15.57
 - c) 15.02
 - d) 11.07
- 5) What was the readmission rate for patients of male doctors?
 - a) 15.57
 - b) 11.49
 - c) 15.02
 - d) 11.07
- 6) What reason did researchers give for female doctors being better?
 - a) they tried harder
 - b) they work longer hours
 - c) no reason
 - d) they are more intelligent
- 7) How many lives could be saved each year in the USA?
 - a) 100,000
 - b) 17,000
 - c) 23,000
 - d) 32,000
- 8) What did Dr Jha say was wrong?
 - a) male doctors getting paid more
 - b) the number of working hours
 - c) statistics
 - d) hospital managers
- 9) What did Dr Jha say women were better at?
 - a) their jobs
 - b) surgery
 - c) exams
 - d) staying awake
- 10) What did Dr Jha say we needed to find out?
 - a) about heart attacks
 - b) why differences exist
 - c) more research
 - d) how much top doctors earn

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

Role A – A Country's President

You think a woman would be best at the job of a country's president. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why they wouldn't be good at their jobs. Also, tell the others which of these jobs a woman would be worst at (and why): a chef, a teacher or a doctor.

Role B – Chef

You think a woman would be best at the job of a chef. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why they wouldn't be good at their jobs. Also, tell the others which of these jobs a woman would be worst at (and why): a country's president, a teacher or a doctor.

Role C – Teacher

You think a woman would be best at the job of a teacher. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why they wouldn't be good at their jobs. Also, tell the others which of these jobs a woman would be worst at (and why): a chef, a country's president or a doctor.

Role D – Doctor

You think a woman would be best at the job of a doctor. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why they wouldn't be good at their jobs. Also, tell the others which of these jobs a woman would be worst at (and why): a chef, a teacher or a country's president.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'female' and 'doctor'.

female	doctor

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• new• slightly• half• second• lower• 11.49	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• reason• lives• well• 32,000• wrong• translate
--	--

DOCTORS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

Write five GOOD questions about doctors in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

DOCTORS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What springs to mind when you hear the word 'doctor'?
3. What do you think of doctors?
4. Do you prefer male or female doctors? Why?
5. What do you think about what you read?
6. Why might female doctors be better than male doctors?
7. What might male doctors think about this research?
8. Will you ask for a female doctor next time you go to hospital?
9. Do you have a good or bad experience with doctors?
10. What kind of life does a doctor have?

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DOCTORS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. How important are doctors?
13. Are men or women better doctors?
14. Why do male doctors get paid more?
15. Are women better than men at all jobs?
16. Why do people become doctors?
17. How do you think female doctors feel about this research?
18. Should doctors get paid on their results?
19. What advice do you have for female doctors?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

A new study from Harvard University shows that female doctors are (1) _____ better than their male (2) _____, but get paid less. Researchers looked at more than three million medical records. Around half of these (1.5 million) were hospitalizations, and the (3) _____ half were for readmissions (people who had to stay in hospital a second time). The percentage of hospital patients who (4) _____ to return to hospital, or who died, was lower if the doctor was female. Mortality rates (the number of people who (5) _____) were 15.02 per cent and readmissions rates were 11.07 per cent for female doctors, compared with 15.57 per cent mortality and 11.49 per cent readmission rates (6) _____ patients of male doctors.

The researchers did not give a reason (7) _____ women provided better care to patients than men. However, researcher Dr. Ashish Jha did give a figure for the number of (8) _____ that could be saved in the USA if male doctors performed as well (9) _____ female doctors. Dr Jha said: "We estimate that approximately 32,000 fewer patients would die if male physicians could achieve the same [results] as female physicians every year." He also said that it was (10) _____ that men got paid more than women, especially because women were better (11) _____ their jobs. Dr Jha added: "We need to understand why these differences exist...and figure (12) _____ how to translate it to the [wider] population of physicians."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) slightly | (b) slight | (c) slate | (d) slated |
| 2. | (a) collages | (b) colleges | (c) colleagues | (d) collegiate |
| 3. | (a) others | (b) another | (c) other | (d) over |
| 4. | (a) hate | (b) having | (c) has | (d) had |
| 5. | (a) dead | (b) death | (c) died | (d) dying |
| 6. | (a) per | (b) for | (c) four | (d) par |
| 7. | (a) for | (b) why | (c) what | (d) which |
| 8. | (a) life | (b) lives | (c) living | (d) lifers |
| 9. | (a) for | (b) by | (c) as | (d) of |
| 10. | (a) wrongs | (b) wrongly | (c) wronged | (d) wrong |
| 11. | (a) to | (b) of | (c) on | (d) at |
| 12. | (a) down | (b) up | (c) in | (d) out |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

Paragraph 1

1. better than their male ulgsoecael
2. three million mealidc records
3. The enptegrcae of hospital...
4. if the doctor was efmela
5. merpadoc with 15.57 per cent mortality
6. tisptena of male doctors

Paragraph 2

7. researchers did not give a nsoera why
8. women dirvepod better care
9. give a greufi for the number
10. We eimatets that approximately 32,000 fewer...
11. yelpelisca because women were better
12. understand why these differences etxsi

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

- () approximately 32,000 fewer patients would die if male physicians could achieve the same [results]
- () The researchers did not give a reason why women provided better care to patients than
- () died, was lower if the doctor was female. Mortality rates (the number of people who died) were 15.02 per cent
- () men. However, researcher Dr. Ashish Jha did give a figure for the number of lives that could be
- () saved in the USA if male doctors performed as well as female doctors. Dr Jha said: "We estimate that
- () colleagues, but get paid less. Researchers looked at more than three million medical records. Around half
- () and readmission rates were 11.07 per cent for female doctors, compared with 15.57 per cent
- () as female physicians every year." He also said that it was wrong that men got
- (**1**) A new study from Harvard University shows that female doctors are slightly better than their male
- () in hospital a second time). The percentage of hospital patients who had to return to hospital, or who
- () paid more than women, especially because women were better at their jobs. Dr Jha added: "We need to understand
- () of these (1.5 million) were hospitalizations, and the other half were for readmissions (people who had to stay
- () mortality and 11.49 per cent readmission rates for patients of male doctors.
- () why these differences exist...and figure out how to translate it to the [wider] population of physicians."

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

1. colleagues better Female than doctors their are male slightly .
2. more records than Researchers three looked million at medical .
3. stay a People to hospital time had in second who .
4. had of to hospital return patients The who percentage to .
5. were (the 15.02% number of who Mortality died) rates people .
6. care why to women patients provided A better reason .
7. that could be saved A figure for the number of lives .
8. 32,000 patients die estimate fewer would We that approximately .
9. because Especially jobs their at better were women .
10. exist differences these why understand to need We .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

A new study from Harvard University shows that female doctors are *slight / slightly* better than their male colleagues, but get *paid / pay* less. Researchers looked at more than three million *medical / medically* records. Around half of these (1.5 million) were hospitalizations, and the other half were *for / four* readmissions (people who had to stay *on / in* hospital a second time). The percentage of hospital patients who *had / did* to return to hospital, or who died, was lower if the doctor *were / was* female. Mortality rates (the number of people who *died / dead*) were 15.02 per cent and readmissions *rates / ratio* were 11.07 per cent for female doctors, compared with 15.57 per cent mortality and 11.49 per cent readmission rates for *patience / patients* of male doctors.

The researchers did not give a *reasoning / reason* why women provided better care to patients *after / than* men. However, researcher Dr. Ashish Jha did give a *figure / figurine* for the number of lives that could be *save / saved* in the USA if male doctors performed as *well / good* as female doctors. Dr Jha said: "We estimate that approximately 32,000 fewer patients would *death / die* if male physicians could achieve the same results *has / as* female physicians every year." He also said that it was *wrong / wrongly* that men got paid more than women, especially because women were better *that / at* their jobs. Dr Jha added: "We need to understand why these differences exist...and figure out how to *translate / translation* it to the wider population of physicians."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

_ n_w st_dy fr_m H_rv_rd _n_v_rs_ty sh_ws th_t
f_m_l_ d_ct_rs _r_ sl_ghtly b_tt_r th_n th__r m_l_
c_ll_g_s, b_t g_t p__d l_ss. R_s__rch_rs l__k_d _t
m_r_ th_n thr__ m_ll__n m_d_c_l_r_c_rds. _r__nd h_lf
_f th_s_ (1.5 m_ll__n) w_r_ h_sp_t_l_z_t__ns, _nd th_
_th_r h_lf w_r_ f_r r__dm_ss__ns (p__pl_ wh_ h_d t_
st_y _n h_sp_t_l_ _s_c_nd t_m_). Th_ p_rc_nt_g_ _f
h_sp_t_l_ p_t__nts wh_ h_d t_ r_t_rn t_ h_sp_t_l_, _r
wh_ d__d, w_s l_w_r_ f th_ d_ct_r w_s f_m_l_.
M_rt_l_ty r_t_s (th_n mb_r_ f p__pl_ wh_ d__d) w_r_
15.02 p_r c_nt _nd r__dm_ss__ns r_t_s w_r_ 11.07 p_r
c_nt f_r f_m_l_ d_ct_rs, c_mp_r_d w_th 15.57 p_r c_nt
m_rt_l_ty _nd 11.49 p_r c_nt r__dm_ss__n r_t_s f_r
p_t__nts _f m_l_ d_ct_rs.

Th_ r_s__rch_rs d_d n_t g_v_ _ r__s_n why w_m_n
pr_v_d_d b_tt_r c_r_ t_ p_t__nts th_n m_n. H_w_v_r,
r_s__rch_r Dr. _sh_sh Jh_ d_d g_v_ _ f_g_r_ f_r th_
n_mb_r_ f l_v_s th_t c__ld b_ s_v_d _n th_ _S_ _f
m_l_ d_ct_rs p_rf_rm_d _s w_ll _s f_m_l_ d_ct_rs. Dr
Jh_ s__d: "W_ _st_m_t_ th_t _ppr_x_m_t_ly 32,000
f_w_r p_t__nts w__ld d__ _f m_l_ phys_c__ns c__ld
_ch_v_ th_ s_m_ [r_s_lts] _s f_m_l_ phys_c__ns
_v_ry y__r." H_ _ls_ s__d th_t _t w_s wr_ng th_t m_n
g_t p__d m_r_ th_n w_m_n, _sp_c__lly b_c__s w_m_n
w_r_ b_tt_r _t th__r j_bs. Dr Jh_ _dd_d: "W_ n__d t_
_nd_rst_nd why th_s_ d_ff_r_nc_s _x_st..._nd f_g_r_
__t h_w t_ tr_nsl_t_ _t t_ th_ [w_d_r] p_p_l_t__n _f
phys_c__ns."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1612/161223-doctors.html>

a new study from harvard university shows that female doctors are slightly better than their male colleagues but get paid less researchers looked at more than three million medical records around half of these (15 million) were hospitalizations and the other half were for readmissions (people who had to stay in hospital a second time) the percentage of hospital patients who had to return to hospital or who died was lower if the doctor was female mortality rates (the number of people who died) were 1502 per cent and readmissions rates were 1107 per cent for female doctors compared with 1557 per cent mortality and 1149 per cent readmission rates for patients of male doctors

the researchers did not give a reason why women provided better care to patients than men however researcher dr ashish jha did give a figure for the number of lives that could be saved in the usa if male doctors performed as well as female doctors dr jha said "we estimate that approximately 32000 fewer patients would die if male physicians could achieve the same [results] as female physicians every year" he also said that it was wrong that men got paid more than women especially because women were better at their jobs dr jha added "we need to understand why these differences exist...and figure out how to translate it to the [wider] population of physicians"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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A new study from Harvard University shows that female doctors are slightly better than their male colleagues, but get paid less. Researchers looked at more than three million medical records. Around half of these (1.5 million) were hospitalizations, and the other half were for readmissions (people who had to stay in hospital a second time). The percentage of hospital patients who had to return to hospital, or who died, was lower if the doctor was female. Mortality rates (the number of people who died) were 15.02 percent and readmission rates were 11.07 percent for female doctors, compared with 15.57 percent mortality and 11.49 percent readmission rates for patients of male doctors. The researchers did not give a reason why women provided better care to patients than men. However, researcher Dr. Ashish Jha did give a figure for the number of lives that could be saved in the USA if male doctors performed as well as female doctors. Dr. Jha said: "We estimate that approximately 32,000 fewer patients would die if male physicians could achieve the same [results] as female physicians every year." He also said that it was wrong that men got paid more than women, especially because women were better at their jobs. Dr. Jha added: "We need to understand why these differences exist... and figure out how to translate it to the [wider] population of physicians."

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. DOCTORS: Make a poster about doctors. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. WOMEN: Write a magazine article about women doing better at their jobs than men. Include imaginary interviews with people who agree and disagree with this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on equal pay. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on why this does not happen and the damage it does. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b T c F d F e F f T g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. study | a. report |
| 2. slightly | b. a little |
| 3. return | c. go back |
| 4. died | d. passed away |
| 5. mortality | e. death |
| 6. reason | f. cause |
| 7. provided | g. gave |
| 8. performed | h. did |
| 9. especially | i. particularly |
| 10. figure out | j. understand |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Harvard
2. Over 3 million
3. 50%
4. 15.02%
5. 11.49
6. They didn't give a reason
7. 32,000
8. That male doctors get paid more
9. Their jobs
10. Why difference exist

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. c 7. d 8. a 9. a 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)