

Who do you think you are? The Personality Traits of Australian Pharmacists

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Australia and the world are facing a shortage of health care workers^{1,2}. Advanced practice recognition and extended scope roles such as pharmacist prescribing could help to meet future health care demand³⁻⁵.

The personality traits of pharmacists may not support adaptability in role, or the embracing of new and extended scopes of practice^{6,7}. No published studies of Australian pharmacist personality traits.



44-item short form personality test that measures human personality. Previously used in Canada to study pharmacist personality traits⁹⁻¹².

Extraversion: Warmth, confidence and assertiveness
 Agreeableness: Social, altruistic and cooperative
 Conscientiousness: Achievement orientated, order and competence
 Neuroticism: Anxiety, depression, nervousness and vulnerability
 Openness: Openness to new ideas, artistic, investigative and perceptive

STUDY POPULATION

Age > 18 years
 Registered pharmacist in Australia
 Member of SHPA, PSA or AACP

METHOD

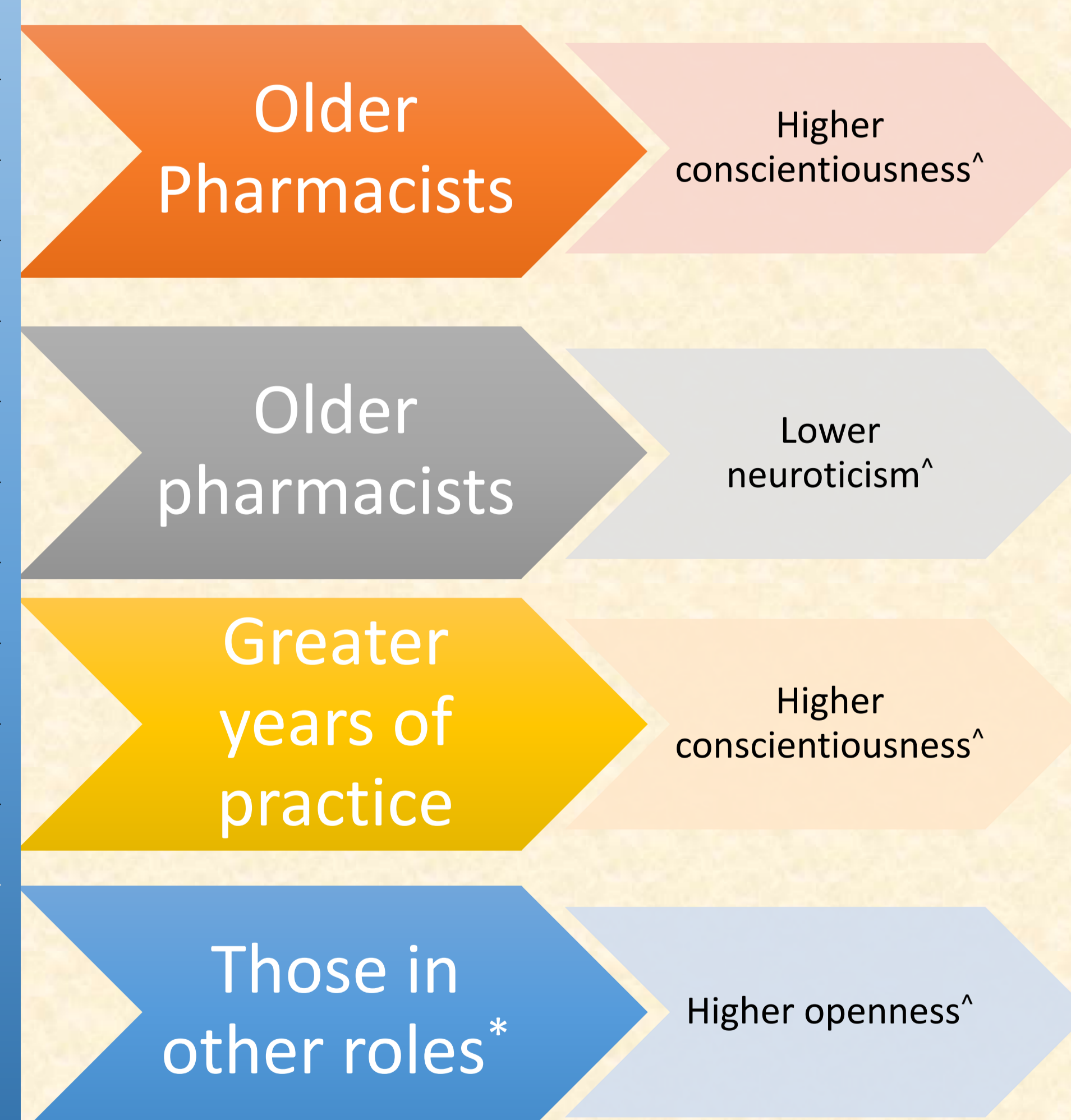
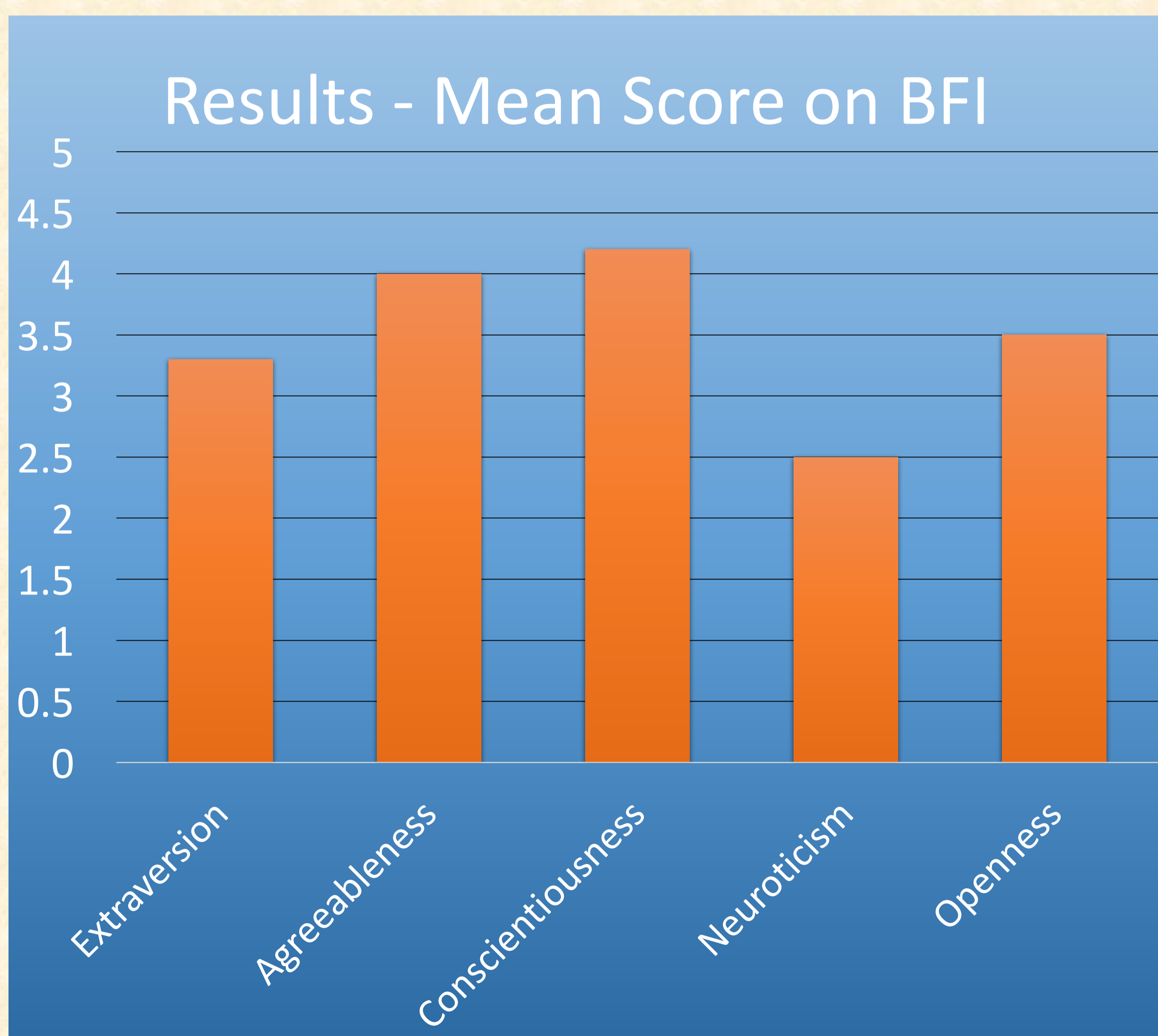
Online Cross-sectional Survey
 Demographic Information
 Big Five Inventory
 Ethics approved by QUT Human Research Ethics Committee

DATA ANALYSIS

Descriptive statistics for demographic data
 BFI analysed according to BFI authors
 One-way ANOVA to determine associations between BFI and demographic data ($p < 0.05$ for statistical significance)

Results - Demographics

n=121
 80.2% Female
 32.2% aged 30 to 39 years
 47.1% work in hospital pharmacy



*Other roles include researcher or independent consultant
[^] $p < 0.05$. Measured by one-way ANOVA with relevant post-hoc tests (i.e. Tukey's)

First study of personality in Australian pharmacists. Similar to the results in Canadian Pharmacists⁹⁻¹².

Personality profile supports current role in health system – strong expressions of conscientiousness and agreeableness.

Future research:
 - Relationship of personality to advanced and extended practice.
 - How do we leverage our personality to drive change?

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