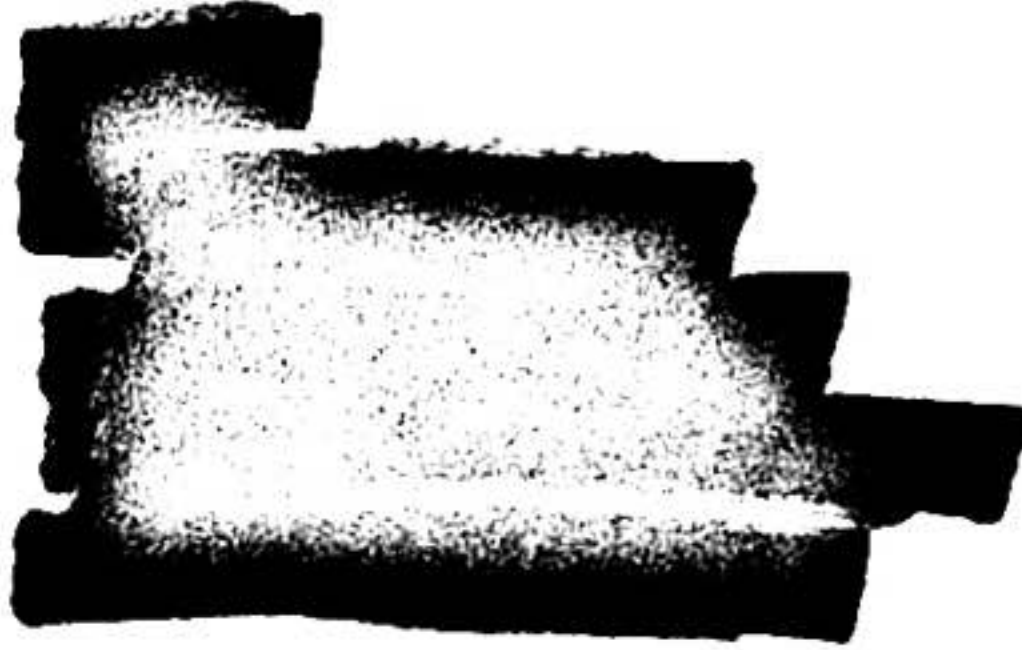


How have your experiences prepared you to be a physician?

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At an early age, I was able to see the impact of empathetic physicians had on my family during the difficult period after the birth of my sister who was born with [REDACTED]. Since then, I knew my aspirations should be aimed towards positively impacting others. Being accepted to the Medical Sciences Academy at [REDACTED] was my first major step towards pursuit of becoming a physician. The humanitarian professors inculcated the drive to make a difference, in one's community and in society. In the academy, my curiosity was sparked when observing physicians during practice, in various specialties, gaining more insight into the life of a physician.

My eagerness to give back surfaced when volunteering at [REDACTED] Center where I would gain more exposure to a medical center and how intertwined parts create a purposeful entity for saving lives. The immense gratification I received from patients during discharge made the experience remarkable.

During college, volunteering at a [REDACTED] Medical Center's Emergency Department exposed me to empathetic physicians who fabricated new inspiration for becoming a physician. Even in emergency settings, their efforts were directed, not only in restoration of life, but to ensure the comfort and trust during patient interaction.

Nothing has had a more lasting impact on me than my time shadowing Dr. [REDACTED] and Dr. [REDACTED] both of who are attending physicians Cardiovascular Medicine Fellowship GME Faculty at the Heart Center of Excellence at Broward Health Medical Center. Their art of medical care is unparalleled and that was an experience from the perspective of the most passionate and caring individuals I've encountered thus far. In Dr. [REDACTED] Cardiology clinic, I captivated the connection of an empathetic physician-patient relationship with those dealing with stressful health situations such as diabetes, hypertension and other heart related conditions. His encouragement to take initiative in their own health care was astounding and heartwarming. Dr. [REDACTED] exemplified cultural relativism, with sensitivity to patient diversity, by using background knowledge of ethnic origins and forward-thinking linguistic abilities, like Spanish and French. These experiences not only reinforced my desire to become a physician but when treating diverse patient demographics, I am passionate about studying epidemiology and specific health trends seen in diverse groups of patients to obtain the tools to provide effective healthcare.

Describe a time or situation where you have been unsuccessful or failed.

What did you learn from this experience and how have you applied this learning to your work and/or life?

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In college, I studied hard in many rigorous courses as a Biology major. That study time coincided with the need to maintain a steady income by holding employment. My parents work hard, but do not have the means to support every activity or endeavor during my college career. . Upon getting hired at [REDACTED] as a server, I had to work 5-6 nights a week to hold employment. Being registered for a full semester of courses, it was challenging to maintain a balanced work schedule, along with finding time to study for those courses. I ended up being unsuccessful in getting a satisfactory grade in genetics due to not allotting enough time to study early in the semester. My time management and adjustment period was not developed enough to handle the workload at the time, but after self-reflection and resourceful advice, I was able to create a balance at work and school. My skills in time management and monthly planning has never been more efficient. I learned a great deal about the importance of punctuality, responsibility and adaptability to new, stressful situations. This manifested into making organization and preparation second nature that must be done to most efficiently handle more responsibilities that school and work comprise.

What would you like to contribute and be remembered for in medicine?

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During my time shadowing Dr. [REDACTED] I noticed the trustworthy physician-patient relationships he has developed over his career as a Cardiologist. A vast amount of his patients placed him in such high regard for the healthcare they have received over the years. The impact he's had on his patients, as a physician, is analogous to what I aim to contribute to my patient population. They trust his medical opinion in a way I noticed that after multiple patients with similar health trends, he became aware of a way to improve their lives by a simple change in lifestyle. Through my experiences in research, health trends are what comprise the foundation for medical discovery. Being exceptionally observant, I would like to contribute medical progress and discovery as a physician along with effective and compassionate patient care. The memory I would like to leave from a career in medicine is one that involves continuity of care for patients that I had a life-altering impact on their well-being and integrity for their health status. The recognition is not what's important, but rather, how strong the trust and comfort levels are between my patients and I. Additionally, my experience with diverse patient populations has motivated me to give back by volunteering in annual mission trips to various countries, like my mission trip to Jamaica with the [REDACTED] organization. Their contribution to the underserved, disadvantaged Jamaican citizens created a basis for my involvement in such meaningful ventures.