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Mr. Speice

ISM I

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An Extremely Informative Interview

Assessment 8 - Interview

Name of Professional: Dr. Linnan Tang

Title: Vascular and Interventional Radiologist Specialist, Assistant Professor of Radiology at UT Southwestern Medical Center

Company: UT Southwestern

Date of Interview: 11/9/20

Works Cited:

Jung, Nathan, and Linnan Tang. "Informational Interview." 9 Nov. 2020.

Assessment:

This was the third informational interview conducted by me this year. It was set up by email and Dr. Linnan Tang was very responsive and enthusiastic to complete the interview. This interview was extremely helpful and overall a great experience. I was also able to connect with him really well and I look forward to working with him in the future.

First, I would like to address the main goal for this interview, which was essentially to get my questions answered and to be able to apply how the information received will be applied in the future. Specifically, these questions were regarding multiple topics such as original work,

procedures, day-to-day operations, Dr. Tang's background, and medical school. To start off the interview, Dr. Tang introduced himself and what he does, specifically, at his job. He mentioned that he was from China and came to America for medical school at Duke University. He said that the three main things that he does is patient care, teaching, and research. When I asked my first question, which was about the breakdown of the job, he said that he specializes in vascular interventional radiology as well as spinal intervention. He informed me that vascular IR mainly involves the arteries and the veins, where he frequently uses wires, catheters, and stents. He also said that spinal intervention involves CT-guided precise injections. At this point in the interview, tons of information had already been gained about his job. This will be able to further build the foundation of knowledge needed to conduct further and deeper research. Also, future questions for professionals can be more specific and detailed, and I can be more prepared for future shadowing and mentorship opportunities. Another thing I was wondering about was the amount of time that he spends with each patient. He said in spinal intervention, he follows the patient through the whole process, from initial diagnosis to the treatment procedure. However, he said that in vascular intervention, he is not really involved with the diagnosis, with the exception of a biopsy here or there, but he still spends the bulk of the time with the patient when performing their procedures. He also said that it is important to explain the procedure and what is going on to the patient in order to make sure that they understand what they have and how it will be fixed, so patient interaction is extremely important. This is useful for knowing what skills to develop for the future. For one, I will need to develop my soft skills and learn how to interact with new people better to be a calming and comforting presence, as well as a trustworthy one. He also gave me some advice on medical school and information on the process of it, which I can use as a basis of knowledge going into my future so that I am aware of what to expect and so that I can

work on certain traits and certain study skills for medical school so that I can be successful. He also described the job experience, including difficult aspects, such as losing a patient, and the rewarding parts, such as being able to inform patients about their procedures and knowing that they trust him to treat them. Furthermore, he went into the future of the job, saying that IR is an extremely safe path to be going down, since he believes that computers cannot do this job, no matter how advanced. This was good information to know and made me feel more comfortable pursuing this path and being able to get an idea of what to expect.

Another goal for this assessment was to gain some advice and input on my original work project. Dr. Tang was very pleased with my idea and said that it was a great idea that would be especially helpful in procedures with really long wires and catheters that need to be held at a certain pressure. He even gave me a very specific procedure to look into and to base my project around, which was extremely helpful. The procedure is called transjugular liver biopsy, and lots of future research will be conducted on this procedure to learn everything about it in order to design my project to fit the needs of this procedure. He also mentioned that this procedure is really interesting and that it will be fun to research. Overall, his input and advice on my original work idea was extremely positive and makes me more confident in the idea and excited to carry it out.

The final goal for this assessment was to reflect on the information that I gained and the interview overall. Some highlights were our connection in general. I had a great time talking with Dr. Tang and I was very pleased with how helpful and open he was. I intend to stay in touch with him and to possibly learn more from him in the future. Also, another highlight was his feedback on my original work. It was really validating to hear his approval of the idea and I was extremely grateful for his advice on what procedure to look into. It was exciting to hear that he

believes that this job will be safe in the future, as I know that lots of jobs are being replaced by A.I., as well as to hear some more on what he does. His specializations are really intriguing to me and I intend to do more research on vascular and spinal interventions. Speaking of his specializations, it was surprising to hear that he has two very specific specialties, since I thought that IR's were just all around and did everything. I did not know that there were specialties too. But again, specialties sound really interesting to me and I will definitely look into them more.

Overall, this interview was really fun to do and extremely informative and interesting. I had a great time speaking with Dr. Tang and I am extremely grateful for his input. All of my goals were accomplished and I look forward to speaking with Dr. Tang again. Future research will be directed toward the transjugular liver biopsy procedure for my original work and vascular and spinal interventions.

[Interview Notes](#)