

Antara Gupta

Mr. Speice

Independent Study & Mentorship

4 January, 2018

A Study of Case Studies

Assessment 10 - Mentor Visit

Mentor: Dr. Dike

Profession: Neurologist

Location: Affinity Neurocare 3388 Main St. #100 Frisco, TX 75033

Date: January 4th, 2019

Time: 12:00 p.m - 1:30 p.m.

Assessment

After a busy few months, Dr. Dike and I were finally able to commence our mentor-mentee relationship. Since I had shadowed Dr. Dike over the summer, our initial interview had formalized the mentorship so I had already explained the different components of the Independent Study and Mentorship program to him. Thus, the main purpose of this visit was to get some guidance regarding my original work.

Overall, my plan for original work is to conduct two different case studies over patients with similar yet different conditions, and then write a research report over how the two conditions compare with one another. Since such a task requires ample knowledge about

neurology, I had researched about the different types of scans and technology that are used to diagnose diseases. As a result, I spent some time with Dr. Dike explaining what I had learned. Dr. Dike told me that my research was a good start, and hopefully over the year, I can fine-tune my skills at interpreting MRI scans and CT scans. Sharing my notes with Dr. Dike made me realize that there is a lot of information that is yet to be uncovered, and it humbled me because there are so many intricacies that doctors are responsible of detecting.

Continuing on with the mentor visit, I asked Dr. Dike if we could look through his records for two patients that were suffering from similar yet different conditions for my original work. Instead, Dr. Dike started recounting the names of his patients and specific conditions that they had been diagnosed with. It was quite impressive how Dr. Dike remembered the names and conditions of patients that he saw only once or twice a year, and it became apparent that the emotional aspect of a patient-doctor relationship is quite important to maintain. Eventually, we decided that I should look into two patients: one suffering from Guillain-Barre Syndrome and another one who was diagnosed with Bickerstaff's Encephalitis. Given that these conditions are quite rare, Dr. Dike has agreed to let me use his neurology journal subscriptions to print out articles for future use. However, for now, I will be using the resources that are available to me through Mackinvia to find information about these diseases.

Furthermore, since my only experience with case studies has been reading them, I asked Dr. Dike for guidance on how to write one. He explained that the way a case study is written can vary from doctor to doctor, but the National Institute of Medicine provides a great guide that can be found online. Thus, I plan to find and read this article before the next mentor visit so I can become familiar with the different components that I must look for.

Overall, this mentor visit was quite successful because I can finally move on from the research portion and start analyzing actual patient reports. Many of the questions and concerns that I had regarding my original work were addressed, so I am now much more confident about finishing this project. For the next mentor visit, Dr. Dike and I will discuss the two conditions more in-depth so that I can actually understand the patient files and move on to writing the report.