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Mr. Speice

Independent Study & Mentorship

19 October, 2018

Neurology from a Glance

Assessment 7 - Interview

Name of Professional: Dr. Nnamdi Dike

Title: Neurologist

Company: Affinity Neurocare

Date of Interview: October 19th, 2018

Works Cited: Gupta, Antara A, and Nnamdi Dike. "Neurology from a Glance." 19 Oct. 2018.

Assessment:

Over the summer, I had the opportunity to shadow Dr. Dike, a neurologist at Affinity Neurocare, and that is when I realized how interesting neurology can be. Over the past few months, interviewing different neurologists in the Dallas-Fort Worth area has been quite eye-opening, for it has brought to light how each doctor has their own beliefs and specific interests within the general field of neurology. Thus, the purpose of this interview with Dr. Dike was to figure out his exact interests and whether or not he would be interested in being my mentor for ISM.

Although Dr. Dike and I had spent ample time together at his clinic over the summer, I had never gotten the opportunity to learn about how his career advanced towards neurology, so I

started off by inquiring about his background in medicine. Dr. Dike explained that he received his medical degree from the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in Pennsylvania and then he went on to complete his residency at the Allegheny General Hospital. Dr. Dike asked about my own college plans, and he explained that it is smart to major in other interests that I may have because it helps create a well-rounded applicant for medical school. For example, Dr. Dike majored in physics, and because of his passion, he was able to stand out in the crowd of medical school applicants. This reminded me of my pediatrician, who majored in Literature in college but still went on to medical school and became an excellent doctor. Alongside with being more well-rounded, pursuing different majors others than biology and chemistry also allows doctors to relate more with patients; a patient who is an avid reader may find that it is easier to feel comfortable with a doctor who spends their free time reading classic novels. Overall, this discussion made me feel more assured in my decision to double major in neuroscience and business.

In addition, Dr. Dike also touched on how his interest in neurology arose from volunteering at a neurology clinic during his residency. He said that experience is the only way that one can truly learn, which is quite similar to what Dr. Aiyagari and Dr. Kumar had said during their interviews. Dr. Dike also explained that he had been the Chief Resident during his last year of medical training, which gave him a solid understanding on how to teach other students. Thus, it made sense why Dr. Dike was able to explain such hard neurology concepts to me easily, and I felt even more eager to make him my mentor.

As the interview came to an end, I asked Dr. Dike to be my mentor, and he agreed! As I was explaining the ISM program and its different components, Dr. Dike suggested that I could

create a patient case study and get it published in a neurology journal for my original work. He mentioned how he is a member of American Academy of Neurology, so he knew the exact process for getting an article published in a journal. This made me quite excited because one of my goals for ISM this year was to get an article published in a journal, and I was on the right track.

Overall, the interview with Dr. Dike went quite well, and I am excited to see how the rest of the year progresses under his mentorship.