

Appendix 1 (as supplied by the authors): Semi-structured interview guide

1. When you submitted your CARMS match this year how confident did you feel that you knew which residency or career choice would be best for you?
2. Does anyone recall any defining moment that helped you make your decision, like an experience, a critical event or maybe a role model. Anything in particular that really stands out. It might have been something that basically firmed up a decision you'd already mostly made or perhaps one that sent you in another direction.
3. Does anyone else have any other experiences or anything that really stands out affecting their decision?
4. Students over the past number of years seem to have moved away somewhat from generalist specialties such as family medicine and emergency. At the same time there is an increased interest in some subspecialties. Can you think of some factors perhaps that might have contributed to this change?

Did you find these factors mostly in medical school experiences or are there also outside experiences or influences as your life has progressed that may have influenced your career decision?

5. I'd like to talk now a little about what attracted you to the specialty you have chosen. In the paper survey students have given a variety of reasons for their preference of a particular specialty. Some said it was due to the nature of the work involved, others spoke of personal reasons, such as someone in the family having an illness. Some students mentioned lifestyle issues. What sort of things played a role in your decision about your career path.

Prompts may include 1. types of patients seen 2. location of practice 3. perceived status of the speciality 4. income expectations

6. A lot of you have focused on more of your passion and what you truly felt. Did anyone find that outside individuals played an important role in your decision? Like a parents, partner.
7. How helpful was your medical school experience at MUN in providing you with what you needed to make an informed decision on which career you'd like to pursue?
8. Do you feel that MUN pushed or influenced you in a particular direction or were all options equally weighted?
9. You folks have completed the Medical Career choices 5 times since you entered medical school. How well do you think it has captured what your preferences

were at a given time and the reasons for your choice? Can you suggest a better way of capturing these decisions?

10. So are there things related to the process of career choice in medicine that we haven't touched on that you think would be helpful for the school/faculty to understand?