

### **Interview Assessment #3**

**Name of Professionals:** Dr. Steiner

**Event:** Research Interview

**Location:** Online via zoom

**Date of Event:** November 2, 2020

**Assessment:**

This week I had my second interview with a medical professional in anesthesiology. I am incredibly thankful to have interviewed Dr. Steiner, the medical chief director of anesthesiology at Children's. This interview has helped motivate me, as well as deepened my understanding of anesthesia and the vulnerability of the human brain in relation to my original work.

At the beginning of the interview, Dr. Steiner talked about how time-consuming a medical profession can be, especially anesthesiology in which one can be called in for an emergency at any time. He said that only someone who genuinely wants to help people will make it through the rigorous course load in medical school and the continued hard work that follows with residency and becoming a full-fledged doctor. This really stresses the hard work and dedication the medical path will be, as both professionals I have interviewed have stressed this key fact. Although the coursework can sound intimidating, hearing this has only solidified my decision to become a doctor. Even if I change my mind about anesthesiology after medical school, my desire to help people makes the medical field exactly where I want to be. Moreover, the medical field includes a vast number of specialties, so there are plenty of fields to explore during medical rounds. The chance to explore one of the specialties that interest me the most

is one of the many reasons why I wanted to join ISM. Furthermore, I also get to look into other specialties at the same time since my research also involves aspects of neuroscience and the functioning of the brain. Exploring anesthesiology through research and interviews has been incredibly helpful and has deepened my understanding on not just anesthesia, but also on the medical field in general. I have learned how to conduct scientific research in a more professional manner and come up with original ideas about projects. Getting to know more about anesthesiology through professionals in the field has been a fascinating learning experience.

During the interview, Dr. Steiner gave me some helpful feedback about my original work idea and research. Although he is a pediatric anesthesiologist and my original work is about the risk of dementia after anesthesia in the older population, Dr. Steiner mentioned that there are doctors at Children's currently looking into the relationship between anesthetic usage and the development of mental disabilities in children. This is fascinating because my original work is similar in that I am looking at how anesthesia may affect patients in relation to chemical changes in the brain. Although elders and children are on separate sides of the age spectrum, both children and older adults have more vulnerable brains. This knowledge helps solidify my research, as I was worried about if my topic made sense because I was going off of my own understanding of case studies I found. Moreover, this discussion also sparked my interest in the research he mentioned being done at Children's where they are looking at how anesthesia may increase children's risk of developing a mental disability. This makes me curious to see if there is a connection between anesthesia's effect on the development of learning disabilities and the loss of memory. Both seem to have to do

with brain dysfunction caused by general anesthesia usage. This makes me curious and eager to look further into this other branch of research I can do to help further my understanding of the fundamentals behind my original work.

All this being said, my interview with Dr. Steiner was a fundamental step in my original work progression. I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to meet with Dr. Steiner and will use this advice and insight given to me to help improve my original work. Specifically, I look forward to looking deeper into learning disabilities in children after anesthesia usage to further my understanding of my own original work.