HOSPITAL MEDICINE – BECOMING A PHYSICIAN

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Hospital Medicine – Becoming a Physician

• What is a Physician?
• Different medical specialties
• What Physicians do
• How to become a Physician
What is a Physician?

CONCISE OXFORD DICTIONARY DEFINITION

n. 1. a. person legally qualified to practise medicine and surgery
   b. a specialist in medical diagnosis and treatment
c. any medical practitioner

2. a healer (“work is the best physician”)
What is a Physician?

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS DEFINITION

Physicians are specialists in the diagnosis and treatment of medical conditions.

Physicians carry out a range of investigations and procedures (such as biopsies and endoscopies) give advice, and prescribe a variety of treatments from simple drugs to more complex regimes such as stem cell (bone marrow) transplants.

They are not surgeons and do not perform operations.
What is a Physician?

IF YOU ASK THE PUBLIC…

Seven in ten people (69%) spontaneously said a physician is a doctor
One in ten (10%) said that they are GPs
One in twelve were more specific - saying that a physician is a hospital doctor (8%) or consultant (7%)
One in three incorrectly believe that physicians are surgeons (37%)
Different Medical Specialties

- Acute medicine
- Allergy
- Audiological medicine
- Cardiology
- Clinical Genetics
- Clinical Neurophysiology
- Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics
- Dermatology
- Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus
- Gastroenterology
- General (Internal) Medicine
- Genitourinary Medicine
- Geriatric Medicine
- Haematology
- Immunology

- Infectious Diseases
- Medical Oncology
- Medical Ophthalmology
- Metabolic Medicine
- Neurology
- Nuclear Medicine
- Paediatric Cardiology
- Palliative Medicine
- Pharmaceutical Medicine
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Renal Medicine
- Respiratory Medicine
- Rheumatology
- Sport & Exercise Medicine
- Stroke Medicine
What Physicians do

- Ward Rounds
- On-call
- Outpatient clinics
- Procedures
- Management
- Teaching
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## What Physicians do

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<th>Tu</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>Fr</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Morning</strong></td>
<td>Ward Round</td>
<td>New admissions</td>
<td>Outpatient Clinic</td>
<td>Ward Round</td>
<td>Outpatient Clinic</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lunchtime</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Afternoon</strong></td>
<td>Prepare for audit meeting</td>
<td>Outpatient Clinic</td>
<td>Procedure list</td>
<td>Meet managers re new service</td>
<td>Catch up with admin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evening</strong></td>
<td>On-call Ward Round</td>
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</table>
What Physicians do

WHAT’S NOT SO GOOD

• Lots of patients
• On-call
• Variable private work

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What Physicians do

WHAT’S GOOD

• Helping patients & getting to know them
• Doing things during the day
• Working in the team
• Training juniors
• Involvement in the Trust
• On-call
• Wide range of specialties
How to become a Physician

MEDICAL SCHOOL

2 YEARS

FOUNDATION PROGRAMME

2-3 YEARS

CORE TRAINING

4-6 YEARS

SPECIALIST TRAINING

MRCP Part 1

MRCP Part 2

MRCP PACES

MRCP Specialty Exam

CONSULTANT

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How to become a Physician

CORE MEDICAL TRAINING (CMT)
• 2-3 years, after Foundation Programme
• Usually 4- or 6-month posts in variety of specialties
• Curriculum available on-line
• Have to do assessments
• Must get MRCP examination
How to become a Physician

SPECIALIST TRAINING (ST)

• 4-6 years after CMT in whichever specialty is chosen
• Usually 1 year each in different Trusts
• Curricula available on-line
  http://www.jrcptb.org.uk/specialties/ST3-SpR/Pages/Introduction.aspx
• Other opportunities – research, education, management
• Assessed throughout year
My final thoughts

• Think long & hard about your career
• I enjoy the variety of different things that I do
• I enjoy working with juniors & the rest of the team
• There is on-call – but don’t look at what the Medical registrar does, look at what people like me do
• Ask others what they think!