**Career in Healthcare**

**Details of the person you are interviewing:**

Name: Rupa Prasad

Designation: Doctor

Q. How does a typical day at work look like for you?

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| The day of a doctor is just like the same as of others. The only difference is that you meet a lot of people if you are into some clinical speciality otherwise not. A doctor has to work tirelessly from 8 or 9 in the morning to 8-9 in the evening without loosing his sense of judgement, which is most important. One can obviously take breaks if he/she wants, it depends on people's personal work capability.  she leaves for clinic at 9 in the morning, then visits hospital, after that at around 3-4 she has her lunch. The lunch can also be sometimes postponed till 6 in the evening. After half an hour rest she again sees patients in his clinic till 9-9:30 pm and takes her day off. One can say it is quite hectic but doctors are trained in this way to work for long hours without breaks. |

Q. What are some of the striking features you like about your job?

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| ***"The best part about being a doctor is going to work and making a difference every day."***  Even when it is not the question of life and death, small illness that baby has, makes parents (more so if grand parents) nervous. It is highly rewarding when mother enters my chamber next day with smile on her face and gratitude in her manners and words.  Even curing the curable illnesses, that is a routine affair for us, means a lot for patients and family members.  Sometimes apparently non-serious conditions like malnutrition or anemia which was no concern for parents is diagnosed and cured by us, means an achievement as we know this as life changing event for that child.  Saving one life, sometimes with little intervention and sometimes with great struggle means a lot for pediatrician as well as family. We never know the potential of that child. We might have saved would be Einstein, Obama or Gandhi.  ***Pleasure in making a difference to someones life is the best part about being a doctor.*** |

Q. What are some of the major difficulties that you have encountered in your job?

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| not being able to help everyone and having to make some ethical decisions with blurry lines.   * No sleep * High stress * We can't have food on time. * We always forgot the most important days of our lives. * We won't go to any other place than hospital and home. * We do study all the time, the day we stop studying is the day of our death. * We won't have weekend off or festival holidays, we do end up doing duty when everyone are celebrating. * Holiday planning will be out of question. * Even if it's raining or in heavy sun also we should attend hospital with no excuses. |

Q. What will be your advice for those aspiring to make a career in this domain?

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| 1. Don't count how many years you need to study. Learning in medicine is not 5. 5+3+3 years (MBBS+MD+DM) it is life long. 2. Don't waste your time in college and bunk classes or sleep in hostel during classes. Everything you learn has implications on patient care in the future. 3. Medical subjects are not isolated. Anatomy, pathology, pharmacology, medicine….. and all subjects are interlinked. We have one liver and not a anatomy liver, a pharmacology liver and so on. All process in liver that you read as different subjects happen in the same organ simultaneously. So integrate your learning and you will be amazed by the function of the human body. 4. Advances in medical sciences are occurring rapidly. Few decades ago it used to occur once in few years and we got to know when the textbook editions changed. Nowadays information in a new edition of a book is obsolete on the day of its release. So keep updated with new information by subscribing to site like medscape and up to date. 5. Dont panic if your friends get good marks or get a good PG seat. You are not competing with others. You are competing with yourself. This is not your Akash or FiitJee classes. A patient doesnt ask you what was your MBBS marks or how many times you failed before getting treatment from you. 6. Learn to gain knowledge in addition to trying to pass. |

Q. Any other advice?

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| 1. Money is important but don't be a doctor because you want to earn only money. You are better off being a business person. Always help the poor and needy, they will appreciate your help. Your professional fees is under your control. 2. Learn to work as a team. You will need other doctors, nurses, physiotherapist, dieticians and many more allied professionals to treat a patient. You are not the most important person, everyone has a equal role to play. 3. Discuss subjects with your colleagues and friends. You will be surprised to know that a topic that takes ages to understand can be easily explained by someone else. |