

Interview Assessment #20

Name of Professional: Dr. Paul Hansen

Profession/Title: Neurology Specialist

Business/Company name: Medical City Plano

Date of Interview: February 20th, 2021

Assessment:

In this research interview, I interviewed Dr. Paul Hansen. Dr. Hansen is a neurology specialist at Medical City Plano. In specific, he specializes in preventing, diagnosing, and treating neurological and neurovascular diseases. Prior to this research interview, I hoped to learn more about the various patients Dr. Hansen works with, what type of neurology he deals with, as well as his fields' relation to Parkinson's Disease, which is my focus in ISM. Dr. Hansen, specializing in neurovascular neurology, was a great candidate/professional to interview in hopes of me learning more about these topics. During this interview, I was looking forward to being given the opportunity to gain further insight into the current treatments and research going into this field. My overall goal is to determine effective biomarkers and diagnosing methods for Parkinson's Disease; therefore, I realized that it would be of much help for me to interview a professional who could give me insight into a similar field in which I could apply this knowledge to my field of research.

We started off the interview by discussing how he treats his patients and the current treatments for his field of neurology. I found this information very useful because I was able to compare these treatments with the current treatments for Parkinson's Disease and realize that dementia-related diseases are very lacking in treatments compared to every other field of neurology. The patients that Dr. Hansen works with come in facing issues such as subarachnoid hemorrhages, strokes, and brain aneurysms. Learning about the parallel treatments for other neurological diseases provided me with insight into the other worlds of treatments for neurological diseases. In addition to teaching me about the specifics of the treatments used on patients for these diseases, he emphasized the importance of early diagnoses and treatment. Patients with these are different from other patients in that these conditions tend to be lethal if not treated and often times lead to irreparable damage due to the fact that they take place in the brain. This related to Parkinson's Disease in that the disease should be treated in earlier stages and can lead to progressive effects if not treated.

Dr. Hansen also informed me about difficulties pertaining to being a neurologist and about his job in general. He informed me that he has had patients who have passed away and have been in terrible conditions due to their diseases. He explained how this is oftentimes very hard to watch as you feel as if you could have done something differently to save their life. I also asked about the training that it took for him to get into the position that he is in. He explained that it took many years of schooling and specialization to get to his job and rank. In Dr. Hansen's profession, he is able to meet with individual patients who he is able to treat and cure their conditions and in some cases save their lives. Eventually, in my medical career, this is something I wish to do.