

Person to be Interviewed: Dr. Joel Ramirez

Phone: (559) 920-9012

Job Title: Sports Medicine Specialist

Business: Living Water Clinic

Place of Interview: 833 N. Sequoia Ave., Lindsay, CA 93247

Date and Time of Interview: 8/25/16 @ 9:00am

Estimated Time of Interview: 5 hours

I wanted to job shadow Dr. Ramirez because as a doctor he has valuable knowledge that could help me in my journey in the medical field. I want to know what struggles Dr. Ramirez faced when he was in college and med school. I want to know what a normal day as a doctor entails, as well as what I should expect when I become a doctor.

- What qualities does a person need to possess to be in this type of position?
  - You have to be motivated, ambitious, adaptive, and able to multi-task. Because you need to be able to take care of many patients at once.
- How do you see jobs in this field changing in the future?
  - Jobs in the medical field have to adapt to the constant changes in healthcare delivery and policies.
- How much flexibility do you have in terms of dress, hours of work, vacation, etc.?
  - It depends. I am the co-owner of my own practice and because I am the owner I get to decide. However, if I had been working in a hospital I would have had to adhere to their policies and guidelines.
- Do you take work home?
  - Sometimes, I might need to finish some charts at home but I usually come early to work in order to finish them. I try not to bring work home.
- What was the most influential moment when you were in college?
  - Attending a workshop with a panel of latino UCLA medical students. I asked them for advice on how to make my med-school application stand out and I followed their advice to the 't'. I had been feeling overwhelmed with school work and attending that workshop helped.
- How does the economy affect your job?
  - When the economy is doing well then most industries are doing well. However, in healthcare, insurance plays a big part in how I get paid. Insurance is either private or government owned. That's why doctors need representatives to rally for us in congress to handle the price of our services.
- What opportunities for advancement are there for this field?

- There are so many. Having an MD gives you many opportunities. You can go into politics, public health, become the leader of a hospital, create new policies, become a spokesperson, or a consultant.
- Do you work a lot of overtime?
  - Yes. The reason is because I am a business owner and I have to take care of three clinics, two in porterville and this one here in Lindsay. Whatever it is my business needs whether it is a new banner, new paint, or other supplies, I have to take care of it.
- What skills do you look for when interviewing potential applicants for your clinic?
  - I look at the training they've done in their program. I want to make sure they are capable of handling what they are supposed to be handling and they need to work well in a team. They also must want to advance themselves, to work harder and seek promotions.
- What is the most challenging part of your job?
  - Trying to navigate changes in policies. Sometimes I can't practice medicine the way I would want to. For instance lets I request and MRI for a patient, the insurance won't allow that until I have given the patient an X-ray. I know that they don't need an X-ray, plus that'll expose them to more radiation, but that is what the policy requires I do.