

Faces of Residency



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Medical School
Dalhousie University

Residency
University of Alberta

Specialty
General Surgery

PGY
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WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO MEDICINE?

I have always been interested in pathophysiology and learning how the body works. I also enjoy working with as well as helping others and medicine allows me to combine these interests. I feel it is a privilege to be part of some of the best and hardest moments in patients' lives.

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO YOUR SPECIALTY?

Most surgery resident physicians would say they chose surgery because they like procedures and working with their hands. It is incredibly rewarding to be able to treat disease using your own two hands and see immediate results. But as a surgery resident physician, you don't just learn how to perform surgical procedures - you also must understand the complexity of your patients' medical problems so you can make the best treatment decisions. Learning when surgery is and is not in the best interest of your patient is part of becoming a successful surgeon.

WHAT IS THE MOST REWARDING PART OF YOUR RESIDENCY TRAINING?

I think the most rewarding part of residency is applying all your years of training in the classroom to helping real patients. It is amazing to look back at when you started medical school and how much you have learned in a relatively short amount of time.

WHAT DO YOU FIND THE MOST CHALLENGING IN YOUR RESIDENCY TRAINING?

Medicine is very complex and constantly changing. There is always so much more to learn. The breadth of knowledge and skills you are required to have is one of the most challenging aspects of residency, but it is also one of the most rewarding.

WHAT ENERGIZES YOU OUTSIDE OF RESIDENCY?

I enjoy spending time with my friends and family. I just moved to Alberta from the east coast last year, so I enjoy discovering new places and things to do in Edmonton. I also have a dog who I love spending time with and I continue to take dance classes like I have since I was a child. Keeping a balance during residency can be hard, but it is important.