

Questions to a senior doctor at Ealing Hospital, January 2014:

Why did you want to do medicine?

- Strengths in the sciences
- Lots of options in the future

What are the advantages and disadvantages of your job?

- self-rewarding
- interesting and challenging
- you never stop learning
- treating patients is rewarding

- stress and workload
- emotionally challenging
- the NHS can be a difficult environment to work in

Why made you choose to specialise in dermatology?

- Dermatology allows you to use your eyes. You diagnose people by looking a feeling the skin and he found that attractive. The disease and rash is in front of you and you use patterns to find out what the underlying condition is. It's very rewarding because people with skin disease may have very low self-esteem as for example if you have a rash on your face, you don't want to go shopping or feel attractive. It's the most disabling condition you can have and we have the ability to cure it. Interesting and challenging.

What was your Medical school?

- Studied at imperial college.
- Had a large year group - makes you anonymous as a student as you don't have personal relationships with the professors as you would studying A level.

What are the current issues in the NHS?

- GP commissioning
- Ageing population
- The Francis Report (South Staffs scandal)
- Economics

What qualities are necessary in a doctor?

- Teamwork
- Leadership
- Responsibility
- Communication
- Academic ability

What do you think we should do in preparation for our interview?

- Why that particular university?
- Read their prospectus!
- Read articles from BBC Health
- Know the details of the article e.g who did the research and when!

Things he said:

“On the ward, you are asked to do an impossible job which is ‘treat people as you would wanted to be treated’.”

When talking about why you want to study Medicine, don't talk heavily about your work experience! Only give a brief summary.

THINGS TO DO

Have eye contact

Speak slowly

Be passionate