# Applying For Internal Medicine Residency . . .



in 10 Easy Steps

October 2017











# **DOM Application Advisors**

- Discuss course scheduling
- Department of medicine letter meeting
- Advisor for program selection
- Advocacy calls
- Interview decisions
- Rank list







#### **Identify a DOM Mentor**



Email Ann Marie: AnnMarie.Hunt@uphs.upenn.edu



- Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine
- Step 2: Taking the right courses
- Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation
- Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS
- Step 5: Writing your personal statement
- Step 6: Selecting the programs
- Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting
- Step 8: Arranging interviews
- Step 9: Interviewing
- Step 10: Making rank list



#### Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine

Step 2: Taking the right courses

Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation

Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS

Step 5: Writing your personal statement

Step 6: Selecting the programs

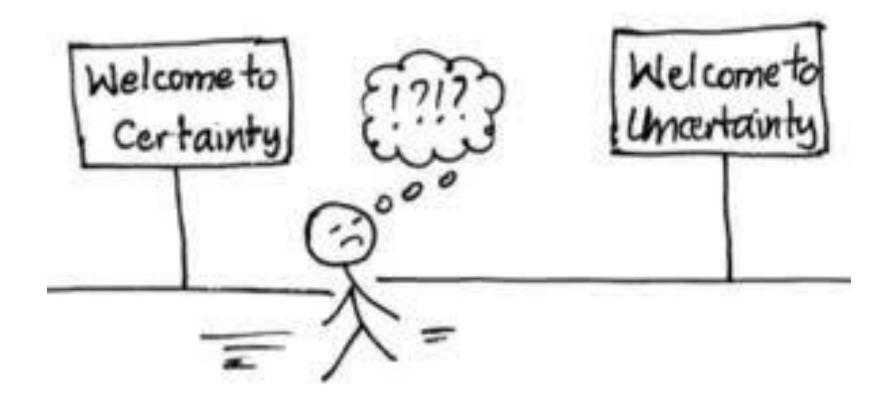
Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting

Step 8: Arranging interviews

Step 9: Interviewing



# **Step 1: Deciding to Apply**





#### Strategies for Decision Making

- Take additional electives
  - Sub-internship
  - Specialty electives
  - Outpatient electives
- Meet with career mentors



#### Types of IM Residencies

- Categorical
- Primary care
- Physician-scientist (fast tracking)
- Tracks
  - Global Health
  - Medical Education
  - Social Medicine
  - Quality and Safety
  - Leadership

- Preliminary
- Transitional
- Combined programs
  - Med-Peds
  - Med-Derm
  - Med-Genetics
  - Med-Psych





- Can I apply to both primary care and categorical programs?
  - Yes. Programs will ask for preference after interview
- Can I apply to both Med-Peds (Med-derm) and IM at same program?
  - Yes
- Can I apply in both Primary Care IM and FM?
  - Ideally no. Try to decide.
  - Don't apply to FM & IM at same institution

Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine

#### **Step 2: Taking the right courses**

Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation

Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS

Step 5: Writing your personal statement

Step 6: Selecting the programs

Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting

Step 8: Arranging interviews

Step 9: Interviewing



#### Required/Recommended Courses

#### Required

- IM Sub-internship
- At least 1 additional course within DOM

#### Highly Recommended

- Critical care (2-4 weeks MICU/VICU/CCU)
- Outpatient (2-4 weeks)
  - ME395
  - Specialty
- Medicine electives
- Radiology (4 weeks)



#### **Timing of Courses**

- Medicine electives as needed before sub-I
  - Discuss with clerkship director or career mentor about timing of sub-I relative to electives if you had any struggles in ME200
- Critical care rotation before September if HP in ME200
- ME395 before August if applying primary care
- Complete required courses by August



Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine

Step 2: Taking the right courses

#### Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation

Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS

Step 5: Writing your personal statement

Step 6: Selecting the programs

Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting

Step 8: Arranging interviews

Step 9: Interviewing



#### Letters of Recommendation

- Dean's Letter (MSPE)
- Department of Medicine Letter
- 2-3 additional letters



#### Who and When To Ask?

- Faculty on medicine sub-I, ICU, elective rotations
- Research letter: acceptable if > 3 months & significant
- Ask if faculty is comfortable writing letter
- Ask soon after rotation
  - faculty will remember you->more specific letter
- Send a thank you note after



Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine

Step 2: Taking the right courses

Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation

#### **Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS**

Step 5: Writing your personal statement

Step 6: Selecting the programs

Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting

Step 8: Arranging interviews

Step 9: Interviewing



#### **CV/ERAS**

- Experience (work, volunteer, research)
  - College & medical school
- Publications: Check all citations
- Hobbies/interests
- Awards/accomplishments (not course honors)
- Don't embellish
- Keep descriptions specific but brief

https://www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/eras/residency/375004/r esources-info2015.html

Print Form

#### **ERAS 2018 MyERAS Application Worksheet**

This worksheet may be printed and used to begin completing your MyERAS application off-line.

**All required fields are highlighted in red and marked with an asterisks.** Please note, that some of these fields are required only in certain circumstances.

#### **Personal Information**

#### **Contact Information** Preferred Phone\* First Name\* **Mobile Phone** Middle Name Last Name\* **Alternate Phone Previous Last Name** Fax **Suffix** Pager **Preferred Name** Email\* Last 4 digits of SSN Address **Current Mailing Address** Address 1\*

Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine

Step 2: Taking the right courses

Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation

Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS

#### **Step 5: Writing your personal statement**

Step 6: Selecting the programs

Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting

Step 8: Arranging interviews

Step 9: Interviewing



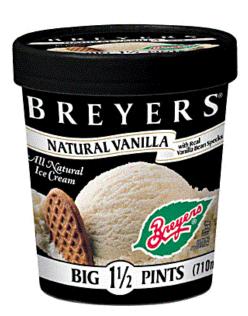
#### Personal Statement

- Should reflect something about you
  - Why you're going into internal medicine
  - Career goals
  - Formative experiences (patients, research, service)
  - What makes you unique
- 1 page single space 10 point font
- Grammar, readability very important
  - Get others to read it
- Do not
  - Write anything you don't want to discuss on an interview
  - Embellish or brag
  - Re-iterate your CV
  - Make it all about a patient



# The Flavor of the Personal Statement

• Jo Mo



• Drs. Kogan and Hamilton







Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine

Step 2: Taking the right courses

Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation

Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS

Step 5: Writing your personal statement

#### **Step 6: Selecting the programs**

Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting

Step 8: Arranging interviews

Step 9: Interviewing



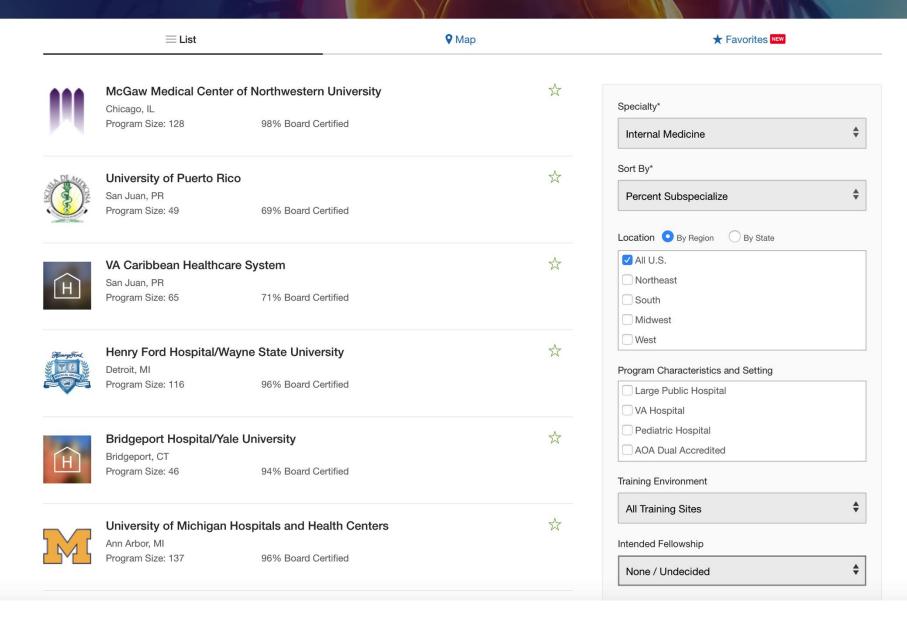
#### **How to Learn about Programs**

- Review program websites
- Penn SOM grads
  - Email them
  - Meet them when you go for interviews
- ACP
  - http://www.acponline.org/medical\_students/residency/
- Doximity
- Advice about staying at Penn: Dr. Flesch
  - Judd.Flesch@uphs.upenn.edu



#### Internal Medicine Residency Programs





#### Which Ones/How Many?

- 12-20 programs (variable)
  - # varies based on grades, credentials, Step 1,
     couples matching, type of program
- Consider
  - Special program attributes
  - Your interests
  - Geography/personal issues/friends and family





- What do medicine programs look at?
  - Clerkship grades (all)
  - Grades in medicine rotations
  - Step 1 score (> 230)
  - Research
  - Volunteer/Community service





- What do I do differently if I am couples matching?
  - Apply to more programs (at least 20)
  - Identify 4-5 cities where you and your partner each apply to multiple programs in that city.



Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine

Step 2: Taking the right courses

Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation

Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS

Step 5: Writing your personal statement

Step 6: Selecting the programs

#### Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting

Step 8: Arranging interviews

Step 9: Interviewing



#### **DOM Meeting June-Sept**

- Goals
  - Residency program advising
  - Writing DOM letter
- Bring
  - Core clerkship grades (know)/DOM elective evals
  - USMLE Step 1 Score/ Step 2 (if taken)
  - CV/ERAS
  - Personal Statement
  - List of the programs you are considering



# **DOM Meeting**

- Review and discuss
  - Clerkship grades/USMLE scores
  - CV/ERAS
  - Personal statement
  - Letter of recommendation writers
  - Program list (ensure 8-10 interviews)
- Generate DOM letter
  - Describes performance in DOM courses
- Email follow-up September to review final lists





#### Situations for Earlier Advising

- Pass/Fail in medicine course or another core clerkship
- Step 1 score < 235
  - Discuss need to take Step 2 early
- Other issues related to academic difficulties



Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine

Step 2: Taking the right courses

Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation

Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS

Step 5: Writing your personal statement

Step 6: Selecting the programs

Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting

#### **Step 8: Arranging interviews**

Step 9: Interviewing



#### **Interviews**

- Offers: end September- early November
  - Initial invite, wait list, rejection, no response
- Can group interviews geographically
- Can decline interview (politely)
- Can cancel interviews (> 2 weeks lead time)
- Always be polite, respectful speaking to program administrators
- Contact DOM advisor if you do not have 8 interviews October 20, 2018



- Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine
- Step 2: Taking the right courses
- Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation
- Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS
- Step 5: Writing your personal statement
- Step 6: Selecting the programs
- Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting
- Step 8: Arranging interviews

#### **Step 9: Interviewing**



#### **Interviewing**

- Attend DOM Interviewing Workshop Sept 2018
  - Tips for successful interviews
  - Mock interviews with feedback
- Prepare for interviews
  - Practice answers to common questions
  - Learn about the program ahead of time
  - Warm up interviews early but don't save best for last
- Learn about the program while there
  - Use "spidey senses"



#### **Interviewing**

- Be punctual
- Don't text or use phone
- Dress appropriately
  - Suit and tie for men; suit for women (pants okay)
  - Comfortable shoes
  - Piercing etc
- Be yourself, be relaxed, be honest
- You are being watched the entire day!
- Thank you notes +/-



Step 1: Deciding to apply in Internal Medicine

Step 2: Taking the right courses

Step 3: Getting letters of recommendation

Step 4: Doing your CV/ERAS

Step 5: Writing your personal statement

Step 6: Selecting the programs

Step 7: Attending your DOM letter meeting

Step 8: Arranging interviews

Step 9: Interviewing



#### Make Your Rank List

- Rank programs in the order you want to go them
- Second looks ONLY if you need more information
- DOM advisors available to discuss





#### **Phone Calls**

- Front end
  - One call to program
     you have not gotten an
     interview
  - We will discuss which program that should be
- Back-end call





	2018				2019
	Jan-May	Jun- August	Sept	Oct- Dec	Jan- Feb
SubI/Electives/ICU			<b></b>	***************************************	
Request letters of recommendation					
ERAS/Personal Statement/ Identify programs	_		<b>→</b>		
Meet with DOM advisor (Kogan, Hamilton)					
Finalize and submit ERAS Programs download			<b>★</b> 9/15		
DOM and MSPE released			7	10/1	
Schedule/go on interviews					
Submit match list					



# Questions??

