***UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE CHIRIQUI***

***FACULTY OF MEDICINE***

***SCHOOL OF MEDICINE***

***ENGLISH 120 a***

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***EXPLORING MEDICAL CAREER***

***Questionnaire:***

1. ***What things should you consider about your personality to know if the medical career is for you?***

***R).*** *I consider my personality to see if a career in medicine is for me is this:*

* *I worry about the problems and pains of others.*
* *I like helping people with my knowledge and skills.*
* *I am interested in learning about the human body functions.*

1. ***What does it take to become a physician?***

***R).*** *To becoming a doctor requires a serious educational commitment:*

* *It takes from 11 to 16 years to complete your education, including 4 years of undergraduate school.*
* *4 years of medical school.*
* *From three to eight years of residency training in a desired specialty.*

1. ***What are the characteristics of the medical career?***

***R).*** *Many bright and motivate college students describe a “dream career” with the following characteristics:*

* ***Service:*** *allows you to help people and advance knowledge.*
* ***Action:*** *doesn’t tie you to a desk all the time.*
* ***Respect:*** *your work and contributions are an important part of your community.*
* ***Security:*** *enables you to earn a good living with a secure future.*
* ***Mobility:*** *your skills and knowledge are in demand, wherever you choose to live.*
* ***Flexibility:*** *offers you lots of career options.*

1. ***What is the main job of a physician?***

***R).*** *The main job of a physician is:*

* *To diagnose illnesses and treat people who suffer from injuries or wound and disease.*
* *Their professional lives are filled with caring for people, keeping up with advances in medicine and working as a part of a health care team.*

1. ***What is the difference between a primary care physician and a specialist physician?***

***R).****The difference between a primary care physician and a specialist physician is:*

* ***The primary care doctors*** *provide lifelong medical services for the entire family. They are the first doctors people consult for medical care. And they are trained to provide the wide range of services children and adults need.*
* ***Specialist physicians*** *differ from primary care physicians in that they focus on treating a particular system or part of the body. For example: surgeons who treat injuries, disease and deformities by performing operative procedures.*

1. ***What else besides caring for people`s health can physicians do?***

***R).*** *Physicians also does many other things. Physician researchers are at work today developing new treatments for cancer, genetic disorders, and infectious diseases like AIDS. Academic physicians share their skills and wisdom by teaching medical students and residents. Others work with health maintenance organizations, pharmaceutical companies, medical device manufacturers, health insurance companies, or in corporations directing health and safety programs. People with medical skills are in demand everywhere.*

1. ***What are some of the rewards of being a physician?***

***R).*** *The rewards of being a physician are:*

* *Personally.*
* *Intellectually.*
* *Financially.*

1. ***What is the average salary for physicians in the US and what does that salary depend on?***

***R).*** *On average doctors make about 160000 a year, but this amount can vary depending on where physicians live and what type medical specialty they practice.*

1. ***How many hours may physicians work a week?***

***R).*** *Many doctors work more than 60 hours a week.*

1. ***Why is medical school a challenge?***

***R).*** *Medical school is a challenging for a reason: If you plane to take responsibility for people’s health and well-being, you´ve got to be committed to learning.*

1. ***Describe the medical school in the US.***

***R).*** *Once you’re accepted, your medical school faculty and staff will do everything they can to help you succeed.*

* ***During the first*** *two years you will study the basic sciences: anatomy, biochemistry, physiology, microbiology, pathology, and pharmacology, as behavioral sciences. You’ll also begin learning the fundamental techniques of taking a medical history and examining patients. Next you´ll go into the hospital and various clinics to observe and work with experienced doctors and begin to learn how to take care of patients. At this time you’ll begin to explore the wide variety of career paths within medicine, such as family practice, internal medicine, surgery, psychiatry, obstetrics, gynecology and pediatrics.*
* ***Your final years*** *are spent continuing your contact with patients and doctors in a clinical setting while taking elective courses.*
* *After medical school you will spend three to seven years in residency, where you will gain further experience and training, in the specialty you have chosen. You already may have an idea of which specialties interested you; however it is good to keep an open mind until your third year of medical school.*

1. ***Why is Medical School tough?***

***R).*** *The medical school is tough because it requires a lot will be demanded of you both in the volume of information you will be expected to master and the rate at which you will be expected learn. You will need good study habits and time management skills as well as a strong academic background.*

*You also will need to be aware of and tap into the tremendous support, guidance and mentorship that medical school faculty and staff provide to help you succeed.*