

Mentor Visit Assessment #1

Name of Professional: Dr. Charles Goebel

Profession: Pediatrician/ DO

Business Name: Pediatric Specialists of Plano

Assessment:

A couple weeks ago I was given the opportunity to shadow my mentor, Dr. Charles Goebel, at Pediatric Specialists of Plano. While we did not specifically discuss my topic of pediatric errors in the home, I learned several important things during the duration of my visit pertaining to being a healthcare professional and how one's day looks like as a pediatrician.

I spent around two hours in the office, and in this time I visited around 8 patients. One thing I noticed and particularly enjoyed about pediatrics is the variety of patient needs and reasons for visiting the office. Unlike an orthopedic surgeon that will only see patients with one specific issue, which may become monotonous, pediatrics gives one the opportunity to work and identify several different needs among patients. In one room you may be conducting a wellness check-up while in another a child may be fighting pneumonia and you must identify whether they need to visit an emergency room.

Another thing which I noticed in my time in the office is how each and every patient truly enjoyed going to see Dr. Goebel. As a child, I can't imagine a time where I was ever over the moon about going to the pediatricians. In fact, I'm sure I cried most of the time before going in. This, however, was not the case for Dr. Goebel's patients. Each one had a smile on their face as he entered the room. Some even came prepared with questions for Dr. Goebel or a cool story to tell him about their day at school. He took the time to talk to each and every child either explaining what bones are found in the leg or asking them about how their day was. I had never

seen so many children excited to see the doctor. Not only does Dr. Goebel takes the time to address each and every child's stories, questions, and concerns but also the parents. He truly does a wonderful job at communicating with each member of the family addressing each of their needs. This is something which I had even studied in my original work as a situation where errors may occur due to miscommunication between concerned party members, so it was incredible to see how he prevents any miscommunications and truly connects with each and every child.

In addition to communicating with both the patient and their parents, Dr. Goebel used handwritten notes. Unlike any doctor I had ever been to, all of which use electronic notes, Dr. Goebel prefers to use handwritten notes. When I asked him about this he said it gives him the opportunity to watch his patients and read what they might not be communicating with him. With pediatric patients it is almost inevitable that they may be leaving things out when telling the doctor how they are feeling. In watching how they react to certain situations and questions, or simply just watching their demeanor, Dr. Goebel is able to truly access their needs.

Overall, this was a wonderful experience in which I was able to see how a pediatrician interacts with their patients.