



Careers in Medicine 101

1/25/12

Joanne Lynn, MD





Disclaimer

You are NOT expected to choose
a career today, tomorrow or this
year

Getting Started on Career Selection

- Spend Time Reflecting on your talents
- Develop a List of Possible Interests
- Explore WIDELY
 - Avoid Confirmation Bias
- Study Hard and Do Well
 - Your patients need this from you
 - Your residency will be easier
 - You will have more options



Reflect: How Will You Serve?

Talents & Interests

Key Questions

- Where do I get my energy?
 - Thinking? Doing? Combo?
- How do I like to interact with people?
 - Longitudinally? Episodically?
- Do I have unique time pressures?
- What are my unique talents?
 - Relationships? Problem Solving? Vision and Strategy? Creativity? Technical Skills?
- What will my life outside of medicine look like?
 - How many hours do I expect to work?
 - What else will I be committed to?



Medicine today is Extraordinarily Flexible

Talents can be used in many
different disciplines



Good at Relationships?
Interested in Wellness?

Primary Care

- Pediatrics
- Family Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- and—
- Alternative and Complementary Medicine
- Occupational Medicine



Like to Solve Puzzles?

Diagnostic and Therapeutic Dilemmas

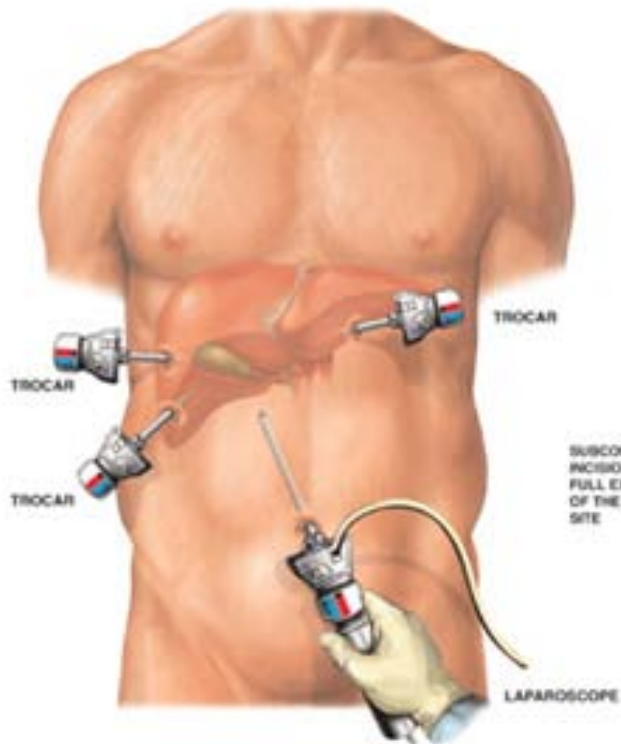
- Internal Medicine
- Neurology
- Pathology



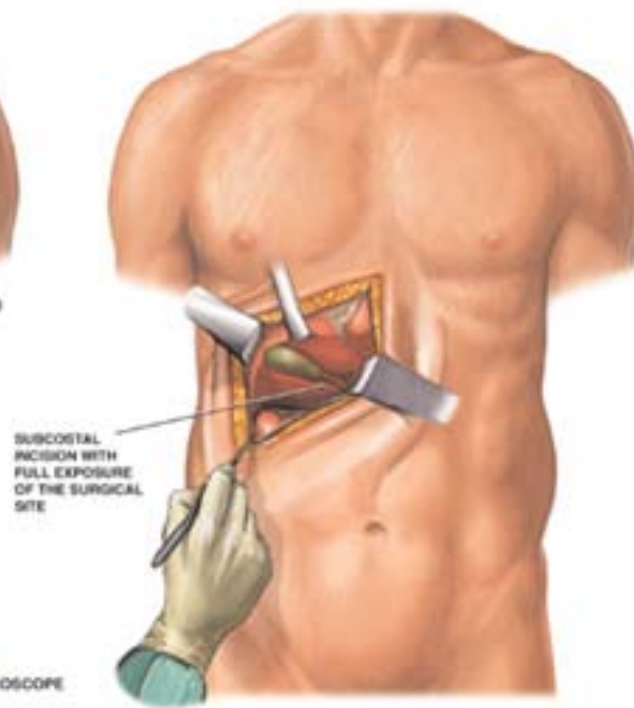
Like to use your Hands?

Good at Video Games?

Surgery



LAPAROSCOPIC CHOLECYSTECTOMY PROCEDURE



OPEN CHOLECYSTECTOMY PROCEDURE

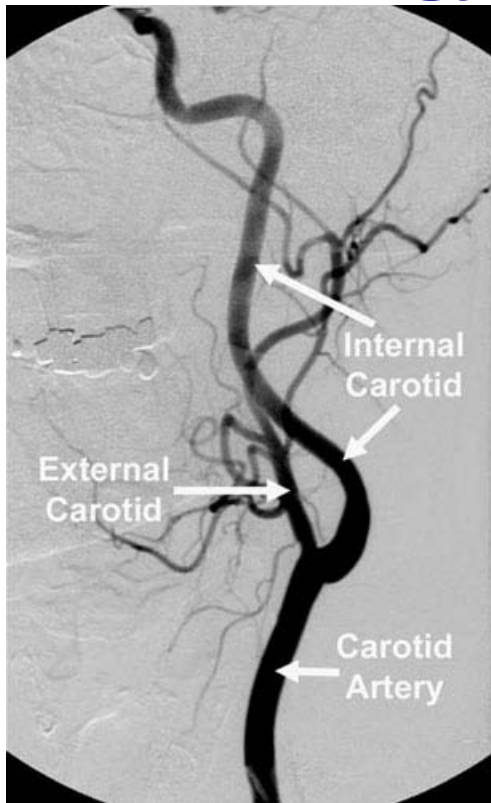
Open

Laparoscopic

Robotic

Endovascular Specialties

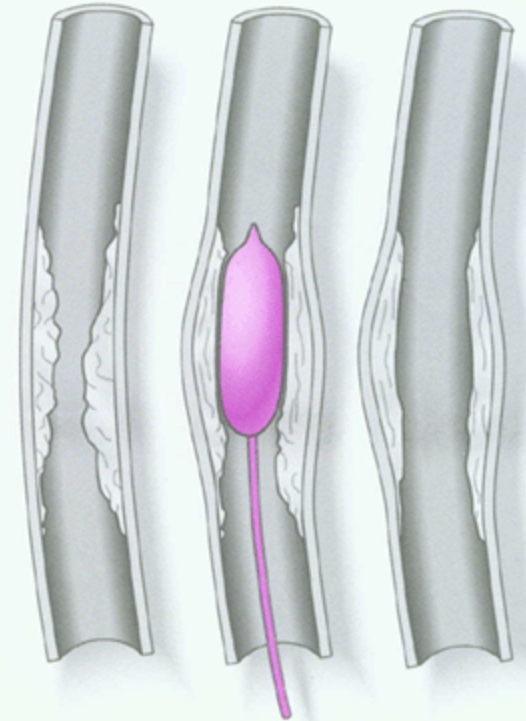
Neurosurgery
Neuroradiology



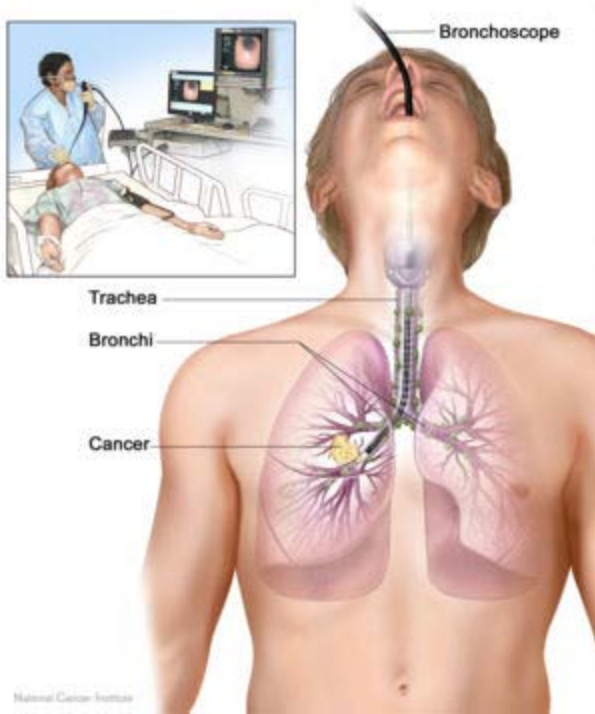
Peripheral Vascular
Surgeon

Interventional Radiology

Interventional
Cardiology



Endoscopic Specialties

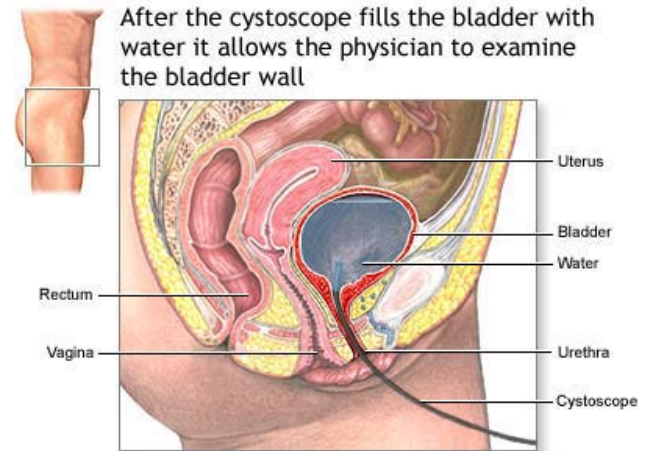


**Pulmonary
Medicine**



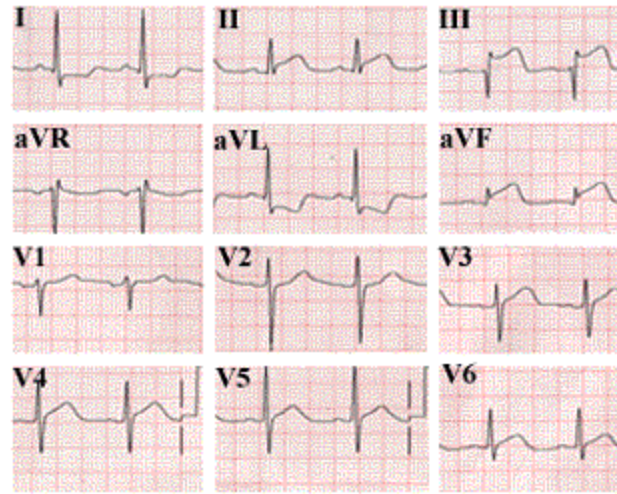
Gastroenterology

Urology

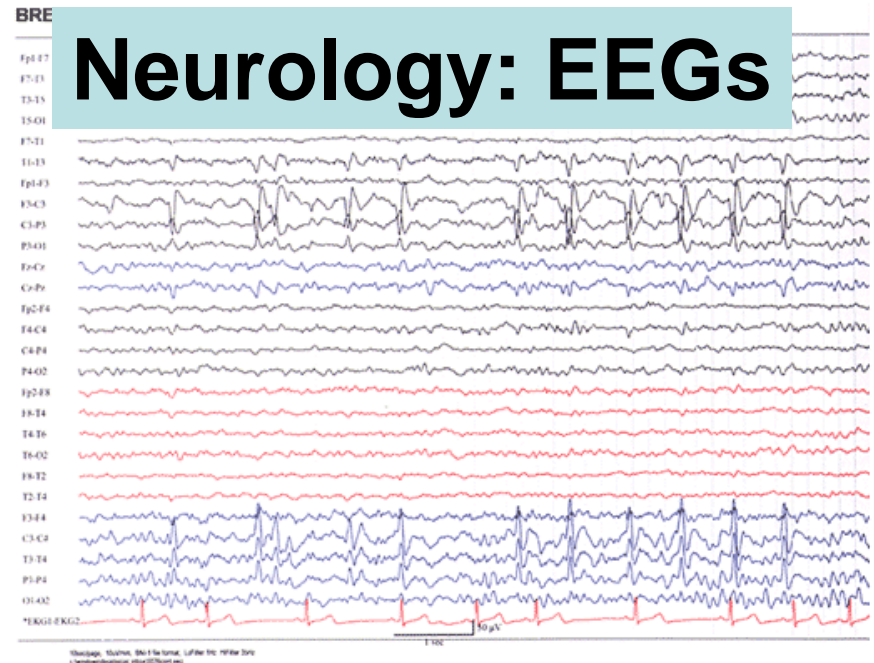




Interested in Electronics?

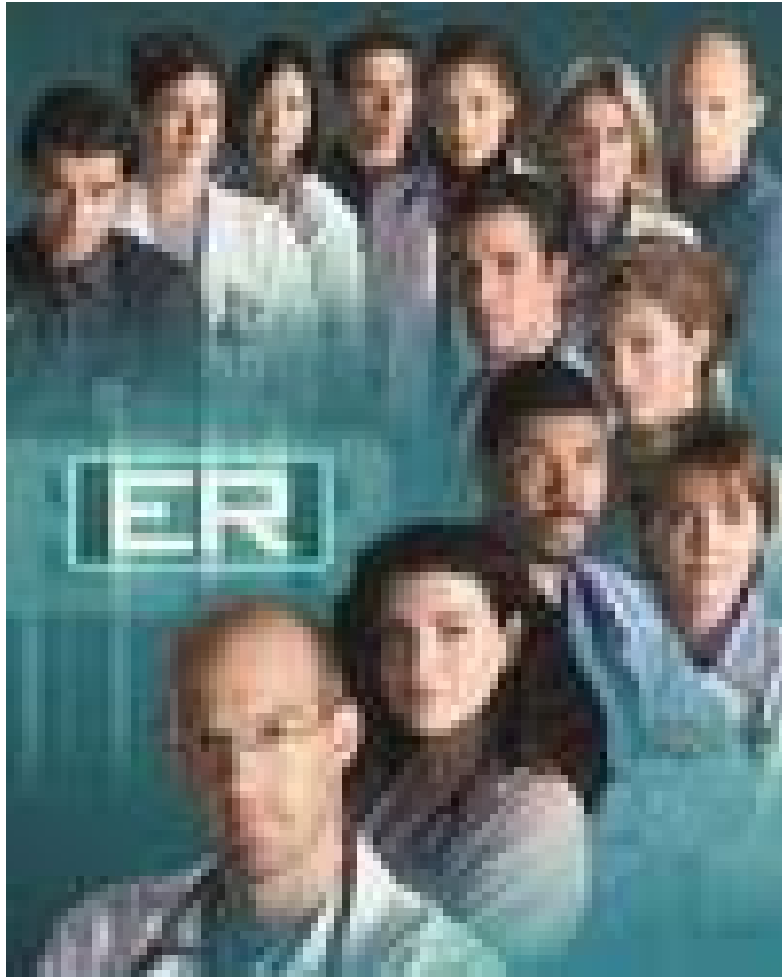


Cardiology: Electrophysiology

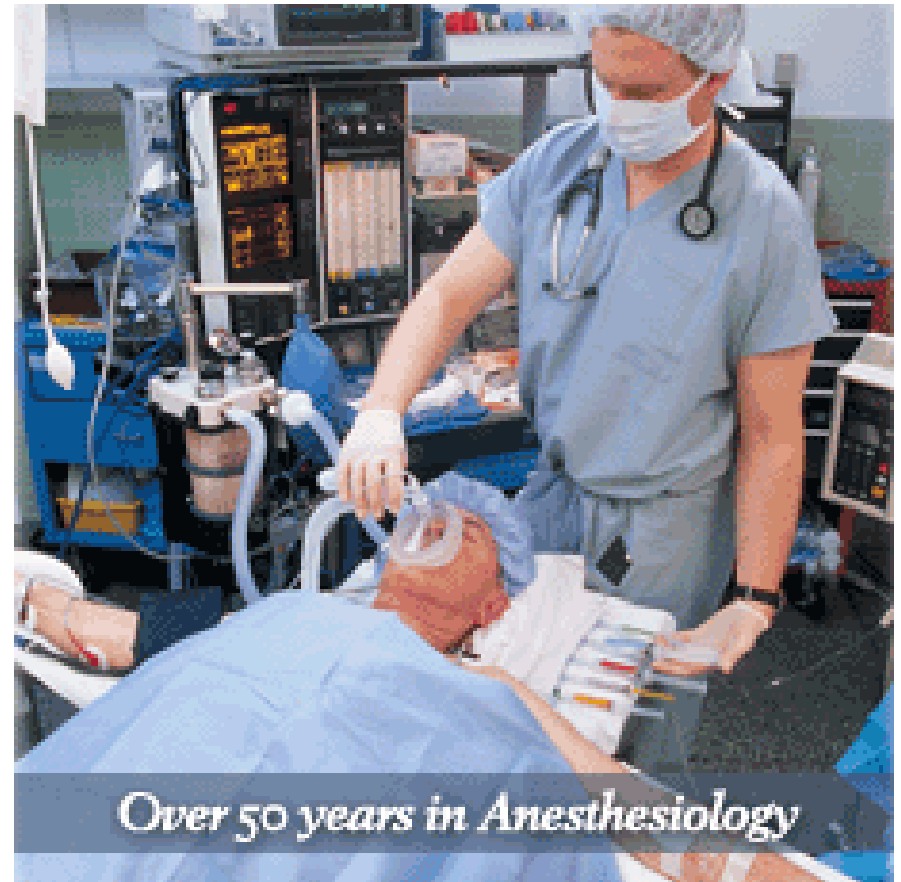




Good At Crises Mixed with Downtime?











Emergency Medicine



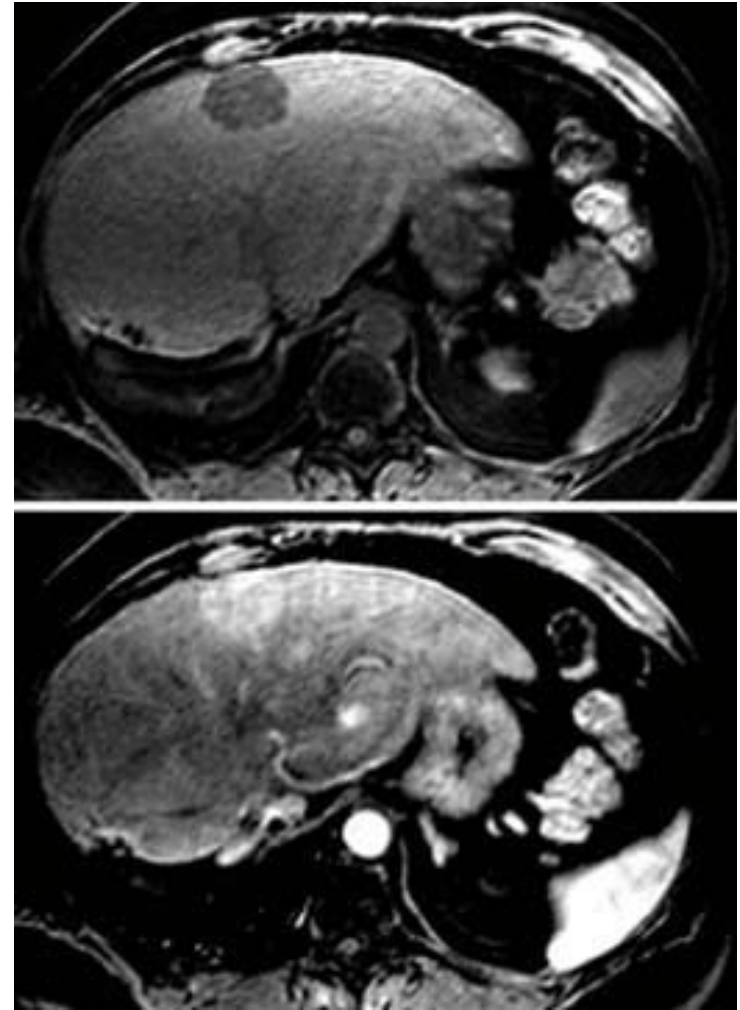
Anesthesiology



Good at Pattern Recognition?

	Benign	Malignant
A. Asymmetry	 Symmetrical	 Asymmetrical
B. Border	 Even edges	 Uneven edges
C. Color	 One shade	 Two or more shades
D. Diameter	 Smaller than 6 mm	 Larger than 6 mm

Dermatology



Radiology



Like Babies?

Obstetrics and Gynecology Family Medicine



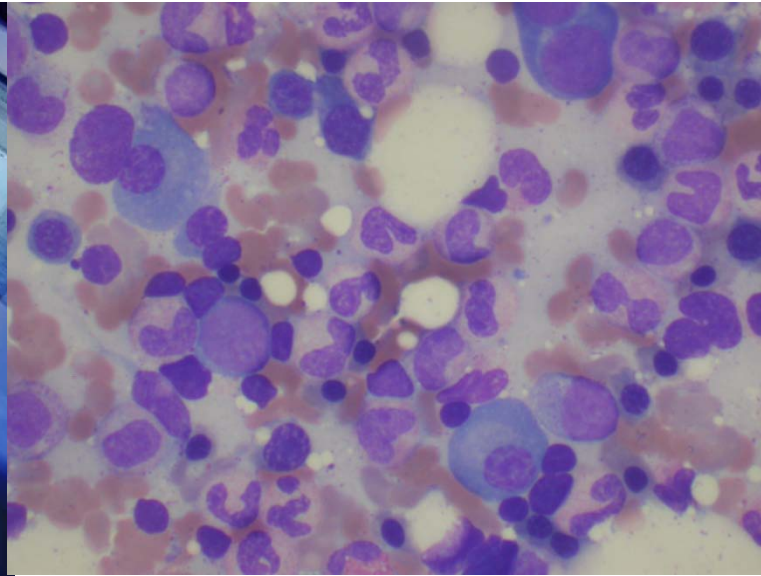
Neonatology



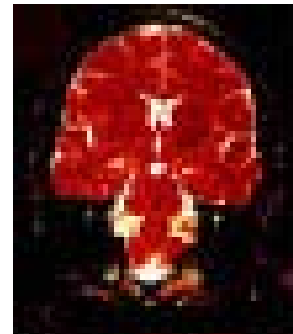
Pediatrics Family Medicine



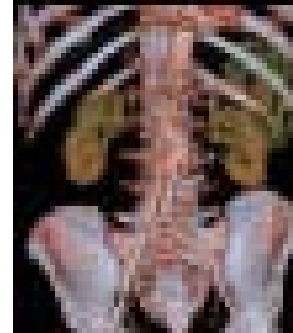
More of an Independent Soul?



Pathology



Radiology





Like Athletes?

Sports Medicine can be reached by...

- Orthopedics
- Physical Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Medicine-Pediatrics



Fascinated by the Mind?

Brain/ Mind related specialties

- Neurology
- Psychiatry
- Neurosurgery
- Sleep Medicine
 - Via Int. Med, Family Med, Neurology, Psychiatry

Tremendous Options: How do I practice?

- Patient Care: Private Practice, Group Practice
- Academic Medicine
 - Research, Education, Patient Care
- Policy/Public Health Work
 - CDC, WHO
- Regulatory Work
 - FDA, Medicare, Medicaid
- Business/Entrepreneurial Activities
 - Medical Devices, IT solutions



What about Time?

Remember,
a career spans 40 years

If you graduate in 2014, by...

- 2017 you can be:
 - General Internist, Hospitalist, Family Physician, Emergency Medicine Physician, Psychiatrist, Pediatrician
- 2018 you can be:
 - Pathologist, Emergency Medicine, PMR, Dermatologist, Neurologist, Psychiatrist, Radiologist, Rad Oncologist, Ophthalmologist, Anesthesiologist, Medicine-Pediatrics Specialist
 - Geriatrician, Sleep Physician, Palliative Care Physician, Critical Care Physician, Sports Medicine Physician

If you graduate in 2011, by...

- 2019 you can be
 - In IM or Peds: Endocrinologist, Infectious Disease Physician, Nephrologist, Oncologist, Hematologist, Rheumatologist
 - General Surgeon, Neurosurgeon, Orthopedic Surgeon, Urologist, Otolaryngologist,
- 2020 you can be
 - General Cardiologist, Pulmonary/Critical Care, Hematology/Oncology
- 2021 you can be
 - Interventional Cardiologist, Electrophysiologist



What about Lifestyle?

What about lifestyle?

- In general, physicians who do procedures get paid more than physicians who primarily problem solve (cognitive specialties) but all are paid well.
- Salaries can range from \$100,000 (primary care specialties) to \$1,000,000 (private neurosurgery)
- Academic physicians (educators and researchers) tend to make less than those in private practice but may have more predictable schedules and intangible benefits.

What about lifestyle?

- Any career in medicine can be adjusted/adapted to fit your lifestyle
 - Part time work and employment rather than private practice
 - Academic Careers
 - Administrative Careers
- In general, most physicians work 60-5 hours/week

What about lifestyle?

- Overnight call/work still exists, particularly for those who deal with emergencies
 - Surgery, Interventional Cardiology
- Others use Shift Work to manage night time requirements
 - Hospital Medicine, Emergency Med, Anesthesiology, Critical Care

Read Books

- Internal Medicine
 - My Own Country by Abraham Verghese, MD
 - The Discovery of Insulin by Michael Bliss
 - On Call: A Doctor's Days and Nights in Residency by Elizabeth Transue, MD
- Family Medicine/Internal Medicine
 - The Doctor's Stories by William Carlos Williams
- Surgery
 - Confessions of a Knife by Richard Selzer, MD (or anything by him...)
 - Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science by Atul Gawande, MD
- Pediatrics
 - A Not Entirely Benign Procedure by Perri Klass
 - I Am Having an Adventure by Perri Klass
 - Other Women's Children by Perri Klass
- Neurosurgery
 - Another Day in the Frontal Lobe by Katrina Firlik, MD
 - Walking out on the Boys by Frances Conley, MD
- Neurology
 - The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat by Oliver Sacks, MD
 - Phantoms in the Brain by VS Ramachandran