Should I Stay Or Should I Go?

What is Private Practice?

Gary F. Tzeng, MD
Dupage Valley Anesthesiologists, LTD
ASA Alternate Delegate for Illinois
Who Am I Listening To?

- Started in Academia at the University of Chicago
- Worked for a not-for-profit hospital in Chicago in an Anesthesia Care Team (ACT) model
- Chaired an Anesthesia department in a Chicagoland for-profit hospital utilizing an ACT model
- Now a “partner” in a physician-only Anesthesia private practice in the suburbs
3 Things to Remember

- BE TRUE TO YOURSELF
  - Know your needs and desires

- YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR MIND
  - 70% of physicians will change jobs

- MONEY ISN’T EVERYTHING
  - Chasing the now not-so-mighty dollar leads to a lifetime of chasing
MYTHS of Private Practice

- My lifestyle will be better
  - Depends on definition of better
  - Manpower is usually lean
- I cannot return to Academia
  - Not easily done
  - But our ASA President is a testament
- I don’t have to do anything else except show up for work
  - Only if you don’t want a job for very long
TRUTHS of Private Practice

- Medicine is a business
- Greater control over earning POTENTIAL
- Greater input into the direction of the business/practice
- Greater ability to choose your associates
- Hospital politics and economics are a part of the business
- A PERFECT JOB DOES NOT EXIST
What Should I Look For in a Private Practice?

- Group Governance and Cohesiveness
- Location & Community demographics
- Income opportunities
- Personal growth and development opportunities
- Practice Model
  - Care Team vs Physician only
Candidates That We Seek

- **Fellowships**
  - Non-Boarded: CV, Peds, etc.
  - Boarded: Critical Care, Pain

- **Personality**
  - Communication ability
  - Team-player

- **Skills set**
  - Clinical: Chief residents, work experience
  - Non-clinical: Leadership, business, political, administrative

- **Connection**
  - Chicagoland
  - Other members: “known entity”
4 Things to Remember

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- **GET INPUT FROM MANY**
  - You don’t live in a vacuum
It’s ANESTHESIA’S FAULT

And this just in... The American College of Surgeons has unanimously voted that global warming, hurricanes and the recent drought in Africa are all Anesthesia’s Fault.
Thank you!

- Good Luck!