INTRODUCTION

- Introduce facilitator and assistants and study.
- Ask permission to record.
- Ask for signature on consent forms.
- Initiate the group interview asking participants what their first choice of medical specialty has been.

KEY QUESTIONS

1. How would you define yourself as a potential physician specialist in _____? In other words, what are, if any, the characteristics that would distinguish the medical specialty of your choice from others?
2. As a potential specialist in _____, how would you define a family physician? What are the features that, for you, characterize the specialty of family medicine?
3. What are the motives that have sustained your career choice?
4. The practice of medicine has been traditionally associated with values such as the respect and protection of human life, professional expertise, and altruism. How do you think that we, as physicians, are balancing these traditional values with the contemporary focus on science and technology in a globalized world? In this context, do you think that different medical specialties operate according to different values? How have you integrated these issues into your career choice decision-making process?
5. What one is capable of doing (or expected to be able to do) frames who one “is.” Do you think that different medical specialties require different knowledge and skills to accomplish their particular roles? Please elaborate, in particular in regard to the specialty of family medicine.
6. In relation to the prior question, do you think that we still can talk about medical professionals as a single group? Or, on the contrary, can we identify specific categories within the medical profession? How do you think this has affected your career choice?
7. Do you think that there is a hierarchy in medicine? If yes, why? According to what? Where would you place your medical specialty within the hierarchy? And where would you place the specialty of family medicine? How do you think that this hierarchy has affected your career choice?
8. In your opinion, what is the influence of all the issues that we have discussed so far on our medical curricula?
9. What are your thoughts about how well this medical school has prepared you to face the challenges that, at organizational, institutional, and societal levels, you will surely encounter? In other words, do you think that we are responding to societal expectations in
END QUESTION

Summary of the discussion:
  o Anything else?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!!!

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