

How to get into a residency training program in the U.S?

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Abstract

Background and Objectives: Becoming a resident is a way to develop knowledge and skills of higher medical education, which can be performed in Thailand and abroad. Residency training in the United States of America is one of the most renowned alternatives. The information regarding this training mostly appears in English and there are multi-stages of application. A project presenting an easy-to-follow guidance of how to get into a residency training program in the U.S. is, therefore, generated. The project is aimed to increase the knowledge, inspire, encourage, and satisfy all attendants with our well-research data. We also practice skills of management, teamwork, and problem solving from organizing this project.

Methods: We gathered the information regarding of how to become a resident in the U.S. A survey for participation was performed among 6 years of medical students using a questionnaire. The project was publicized on posters and website. The lecture topics include Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduate (ECFMG[®]) certification, United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE[®]), National Resident Matching Program (The Match[®]), and The United States Clinical Experiences (USCE). Pre-test, post-test, and the questionnaire for satisfaction evaluation were used to assess the project achievement.

Results: From 57 survey responders, there were altogether 22 attendants (38.6%), consisting of the 4th and 5th year medical students. The average score of post-test was 62.96% higher than pre-test. Most of the attendants (90.5%) were still interested to study in the U.S. However, some thought that the examination procedures are too difficult beyond their capabilities. The satisfaction level of attendants in all aspects is between high-highest levels with the average score of 4.77 (95.4%).

Conclusion: The objectives of the project have been all achieved. However, the schedule and duration of the lecture should be rearranged more appropriately.

Keywords: Postgraduate medical education, Residency training, The United States of America

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