

Why General Practice?



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Why did you decide to go into general practice?

Once I had had my first child it became obvious that general practice could provide the flexibility to be a mother and a doctor.

What are you enjoying the most?

The part I play in the story of people's lives. Often as a GP we are there to guide people through some tough times- from the beginning to the end!

What is your most satisfying moment so far?

Being told by a patient that "I'd saved her life" after she had an aggressive endometrial cancer detected on her 'extremely overdue' cervical smear test I had convinced her to have done.

What's the scariest or craziest thing that's happened to you as a GPEP registrar?

Incising what appeared to be a small abscess on the buttock of a gentleman to be rewarded by about a cup of pus. He'd been "sitting" on the problem for quite some time!

What do you think is the most desirable quality in a GP?

Be a very good listener. The diagnosis is usually in the story.

What excites you most about the future of primary health care in New Zealand?

I know from the people I work with and those I have met through my GPEP training that GPs are a magnificent set of people equipped with passion and commitment to their work. We are together maintaining and improving on the health of New Zealanders by being the solid foundation.



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