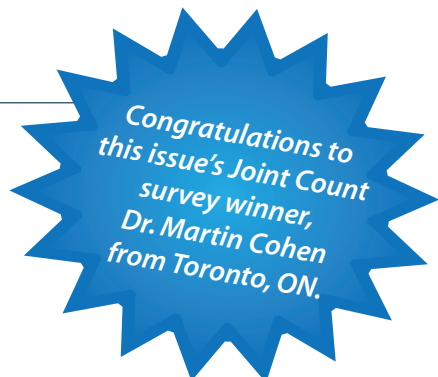


Get a Job

by Glen Thomson, MD, FRCPC



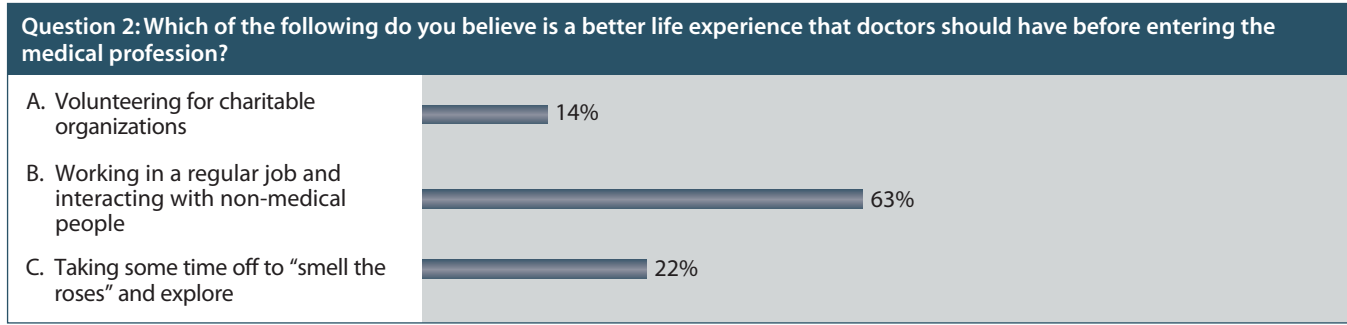
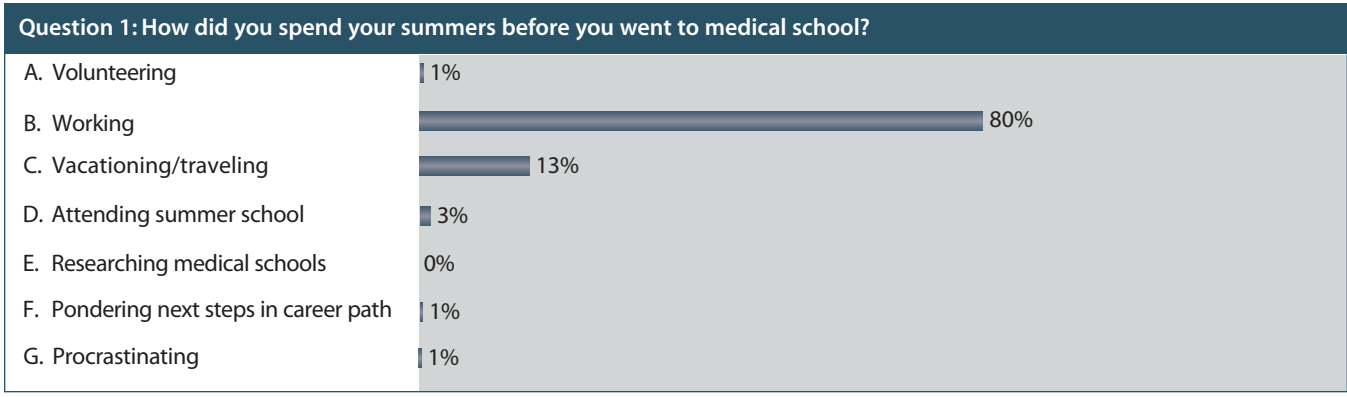
The *Journal of the Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRAJ)* asked you what you did in your summers before medical school, and 80% responded that you worked (Question 1). Of those who responded, half needed the money to pay for university and a quarter worked to gain life experiences.

The majority of respondents did not do any volunteer activities in those summers. Those who did volunteer were looking for life experiences, although some had volunteerism as a requirement to apply for medical school.


So, what should prospective physicians do in their last summers of freedom to best give them the life

experiences necessary to enter medical school (Question 2)? More than one in five suggested that taking some time to “smell the roses” would be best, and volunteering was recommended by 14%. The majority concluded—in the words of the classic 1957 doo-wop song by the Silhouettes—get a job.

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