

HOWARD N. SMITH, M.D. MHA

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Career Goals: Being a physician is enormously rewarding. However, many of my skills and talents are yet to be fully realized. Although I will always remain a physician, I endeavor to move forward into other healthcare related careers such as administration, health policy, telemedicine, and medical malpractice litigation where these talents will be valued and I will make a difference. My goal is to produce a paradigm shift with the realization that, if nothing else, a keen awareness of the liabilities, which healthcare providers encounter daily, improves patient care. In fact, I believe I have taken this awareness to the next level.

Career Summary: I am a physician. To address the elephant in the room, yes, I've been around the block. Nevertheless, if ever asked where I see myself in 10 years, my answer is, "a physician." Fidelity to the Hippocratic Oath and adherence to applicable standards of care is my personal mission statement. Living it serves me well and will serve any future organization, with which I associate, even more. Complementing the ethics by which I live and the clinical skills which I possess both as a primary practitioner and as a specialist in OB Gyn, I, also, bring to the table health finance and economics, health policy and policy-making, research methods and design, operational decision-making and a knowledge of medical liability litigation. Most of all, I bring interpersonal communication skills acquired through a career's worth of interactions with other physicians and various stakeholders in healthcare. I earn their respect and trust.

My greatest attribute is that those, with whom I engage, regard me as an honest broker.

My greatest skill is the ability to connect the dots.

My greatest accomplishment, beyond my three children, is the development of a decision-making model based on hypothesis testing, which successfully weeds out a frivolous claim of medical negligence from a meritorious one with 95% confidence.

These should serve me and anyone with whom I engage very well, even if I am a physician operating in healthcare other than as a provider of patient care. My present passion leads me to adapt hypothesis testing, to many endeavors, such as medical malpractice litigation, which takes these endeavors to an entirely higher level.

Employment History:

Most current- Simply Slim Medical - medical weight loss: Managing Physician - 12/2019 - present.

Skills: (1) Bariatric medicine: appropriate use of anorexics, semaglutides, exercise and the correction of comorbid accompanying condition results in sustained medical weight loss. (2) Primary care . The diagnosis and management of medical conditions complicated by obesity such as type II diabetes, metabolic syndrome, insulin resistance, hypertension , dysphoria and other mood and psychiatric conditions.

PersonaDoctors – medical weight loss: Managing Physician 1/ 2011- 12/ 2018

Skills: (1) Bariatric medicine: appropriate use of anorectic medications, hormonal replacement regimens, diet, exercise and the correction of comorbid accompanying condition that results in sustained medical weight loss. (2) Primary care . The diagnosis and management of medical conditions complicated by obesity such as type II diabetes, metabolic syndrome, insulin resistance, hypertension , dysphoria and other mood and psychiatric conditions. (3) EKG : the ability to discriminate indeterminate findings from those requiring evaluation and intervention. (4) Management of acute minor illnesses and injuries encountered on a routine basis. (5) Judgement when specialty referral is necessary. (5) Administration and supervision of staff in Rockville office 10 people,

Reason for Leaving: Resignation - I had specific concerns that changes in business practices, policies and products of my employer interfered with the applicable standards of care for any physician as well as interfered with and my personal mission statement as a physician.

Howard N Smith, MD - Private practice: Owner and Proprietor 1/1992 – 12/2011

Skills: (1) basic practice of Obstetrics and Gynecology . (2) Administrative skills relevant to running and owning a practice: ie. HR, accounts receivable and payable, risk management, utilization review etc. (3) Primary Care: dx and management of type II diabetes, metabolic syndrome, insulin resistance, hypertension , dysphoria , other mood and psychiatric conditions and acute minor illnesses and injuries encountered on a routine basis. (4) Judgement when specialty referral is necessary. (5) bariatric medicine

Reasons for Leaving: Professional burn-out. A maturing practice that was moving away from its original mission of health care for women - to accept an offer made by PersonaDoctor AKA MyWeightDoctor.

Yater Medical Group - Multispecialty Group Practice Partner 1979 – 1992

Skills: (1) General Practice of OB GYN (2) **Leadership:** Executive board member , chairman of budget committee, strategic planning committee, quality assurance committee and risk management committee . Leads by example. (3) Project Management: Successful budget and computer conversion.

Reasons for Leaving : Dissatisfaction with Group Practice and a foreseeable dissolution of this group. (It ultimately disbanded in 1999). Personal growth - To start my own practice.

Affiliation with John Walsh. Ob- gyn in Chevy Chase Md. 1978-1979

Skills: (1) General Practice of OB GYN`

Reason for Leaving: Personal growth - to accept a position at Yater Medical Group

Group Health Association - HMO - Employee 1977-1978

Skills: (1) basic practice of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Reasons for Leaving : Dissatisfaction with HMO care Personal growth - to accept a position with Dr. John Walsh.

United States Navy 1975-1977

Skills: (1) General Practice of OB Gyn – Portsmouth Naval Hospital (2) General Medical Officer and Head of OB Gyn - GITMO. (3) General Medical Officer - USS Albany CG10

Reasons for Leaving : Completed my active duty obligation. Drafted 1967 - Ensign 1915 program 1967- 71 Berry Plan 1971-1975 obligated officer 1975-1977. Inactive reserves 1977-1987 Honorable discharge Cmdr. 1987. Found job with Group Health Association in Washington DC

1. **Saint Barnabas Medical Center.** Livingston N.J – Employee 1971-1975

Skills: rotating Internship and residency in Ob/Gyn

Reasons for Leaving: completed training and had active duty obligation with US Navy

Credentials:

Education:

Univ of Maryland Univ.College, (now Univ of Maryland Global Campus) - Masters in Health Care Admin - GPA 3.8

George Washington Univ. School of Medicine, Wash DC. MD degree - GPA 3.2

St. Peter's College, Jersey City, N.J. BS degree pre Med – GPA 3.5

Medical Training:

Rotating Internship - St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston N.J.

Ob-Gyn Residency - St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston N.J.

Awards:

ACOG Philip F Williams Award: – Original research by a resident physician in Ob Gyn

Washington Hospital Center's Golden Speculum Award: — outstanding resident educator

American Registry LLC Patients' Choice Award – patient appreciation

Military:

Veteran : United States Navy – Honorable discharge Reserves: 1967 - 1987

Certification:

American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Licensure:

Maryland current- Was licensed in NJ, Virginia and Wash DC. These expired.

URL: <https://www.doximity.com/pub/howard-smith-md-077f6c43>

Other Experience:

1. Consultant:: Faircode 2005-2009 Coding & Revenue cycle - part time -hospital revenue cycle improvement and utilization review with expertise in coding rules, CMS regulation. CMS DRGs and APR DRGs.

Medical Expert Witness 1980- 1990 both for defense and plaintiff. Quit because I was disheartened by impression of “hired gun” I found that most experts were just that and I no longer wished to be associated with this impression.

2. Writer: Wash Examiner 2005 – 2009 health care and health policy – part time

3. Blog: www.conservhealthpolicy.com

4. Research: (1) Prophylactic antibiotics to reduce febrile morbidity in vaginal hysterectomy - now a standard of care and I won an award for this contribution. (2) Methodology that, case-by-case, can differentiate an adverse medical outcome resulting from a medical error from an adverse outcome that is an error-of-nature, more specifically, part of the background risk. Found a way to quantitatively measure the impact of a medical mistake on the clinical decision-making of health care providers.. Published as a law review article.

4. Partnered with AIESTEC, 2020 – subject matter expert - review medical liability

Skills:

- **Physician:** Solo practice, a group practice, an HMO , a customized practice and military medicine . Deals successfully with insurance companies, Medicare and other stakeholders
- **Interpersonal Communication:** Interacts with other physicians and various stakeholders in healthcare to earn respect and trust. Is a team player, team builder and honest broker.
- **Consultant:** Performs hospital revenue cycle improvement and utilization review with expertise in coding rules, CMS regulation. CMS DRGs and APR DRGs.
- **Leadership:** Officer United States Navy
Executive board member, chairman of budget committee, strategic planning committee, quality assurance committee and risk management committee.
Leads by example.
- **Strategy:** Embraces organizational mission and vision. Stays on mission and balances manpower with mission This overcomes the two major obstacle, i.e., mission creep and the Abilene Paradox.
- **Accountability:** Has courage for actions
- **Policy:** Expertise in developing guidelines to precede operations.
Consultant to Chris Shank, of the Maryland House of Delegates, to craft HB11, legislation requiring medical experts to scientifically validate their opinions.
- **Research:** Original research: (1) Prophylactic antibiotics to reduce febrile morbidity in vaginal hysterectomy - now a standard of care and won the Phillip F. Williams award (2) Methodology that, case-by-case, can differentiate an adverse medical outcome resulting from a medical error from an adverse outcome that is an error-of-nature - part of the background risk. Developed a algorithm that quantitatively measures the impact of a medical error on the clinical decision-making of health care providers..
Published as a law review article.
- **Project Management:** Successful budget and computer conversion
- **Technical Writing :** Professional and peer reviewed literature – See publications – Communicates effectively across different professions and different professional cultures.
- **Journalism :** Prolific Health policy reporter for Washington Examiner with positive reviews and, now, with KevinMD

- **Author:** Finding Hippocrates -best seller for America House Book Publishers.
- **IT:** Proficient in Microsoft Office (word, power point, excel) and medical software including DRG groupers (3M and Quantum) and electronic medical records
- **Blog:** WWW.CONSERVHEALTHPOLICY.COM inactive site
- **URL:** <https://www.doximity.com/pub/howard-smith-md-077f6c43>

Publications:

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Biography:

I am an Obstetrician Gynecologist. In 1972, I started my residency dedicated to the next generation of humanity. During my career, I am privileged to deliver 1000 human beings. In 2010, I abandon my specialty and surrender my core competencies. Having paid more than \$1-million in medical malpractice insurance premiums during the course of my career, I decide I has enough. I burn out because medical malpractice premiums reach the \$100,000 per year mark in Washington DC and this adds to the risks I face every day. I permit this to defeat me. Rather than joining an “accountable care organization” or submitting to its “practice guidelines,” I simply surrender. I am still a physician and see patients but no longer practice Obstetrics & Gynecology.

As I watch this threat emerge, I attend graduate school and earn a master’s degree in healthcare administration, which opens my eyes to a solution. I may have suffered burnout but I cure myself. My focus today is on the alleviation of these threats and to show my colleagues how this is possible

Mission Statement: I will always be faithful to the Hippocratic Oath, adhere to applicable standards of care, and encourage my colleagues to do likewise.

- **URL:** <https://www.doximity.com/pub/howard-smith-md-077f6c43>
- **Google search** Howard N. Smith MD/Medical malpractice.

Key words: physician, plaintiff, defendant, claimant, accused, negligence, duty, injury, causation, CCC+C, advocate, risk management.

