

ASPHO Career Path Spotlight

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Career Description

1. **Current position:** Attending Physician
2. **Institution:** Kaiser Permanente, Santa Clara, CA
3. **Years at institution:** 2017-present
4. **Did you complete additional post-fellowship training?** No
5. **Years out of Fellowship:** 11 years (graduated 2014)
6. **Type of institution: (Academic center, clinical center, private practice, Research facility, Industry, Non-profit):** Clinical Center
7. **Approximate number of attendings in your PHO department/division:** 3
8. **How do you allocate your effort? (*Please provide a % for each area)**
Clinical 100%, Scholarship, Education, Administration, Other
9. **Position Specifics (Please give a brief description of your current responsibilities in these areas)**
 - a. **Clinical activity-** I provide both pediatric hematology and oncology care in both inpatient and outpatient settings with night call and enroll patients in clinical trials.
 - b. **Scholarship/Research-** I am the local site sub-PI for COG.
 - c. **Education/Teaching-** I teach pediatricians and family practice residents through educational talks.
 - d. **Administration-** N/A
 - e. **Other-** I serve as a member on a couple of committees in my center.

Career Perspectives

1. **What were important factors in your taking on this role (e.g., professional interest, family, geography, spousal profession)? What made this career path appealing?**
Several factors influenced my decision to pursue this role. First, clinical care has always been my passion and I'm motivated by the opportunity to work directly with patients and make a meaningful impact on their health and well-being. Additionally, I grew up in Northern California, so staying in this region was an important consideration for me. Being close to my community and support system has always played a central role in my career decisions.
2. **Is there specific training or experience that helped you obtain this position?** No
3. **Is this career path what you expected? Please explain.**
Yes, this career path is very much what I expected. I always knew that my work would be centered around clinical care, and I'm grateful that I get to spend the majority of my time

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focused on my patients. What has exceeded my expectations is the balance I've been able to achieve. In addition to direct patient care, I've had the flexibility to participate in committees that align with my interests, which has added a sense of broader contribution to my role.

4. What do you find most rewarding about your current professional role?

What I find most rewarding about my current role is the autonomy I have to provide the highest quality care for my patients. I'm fortunate to work within a comprehensive, team-based environment where patients and their families receive the support they need from multiple disciplines. I feel genuinely supported by my colleagues and knowing that together we deliver excellent care makes me proud of the work I do every day.

5. What do you find most challenging about your current professional role?

One of the most challenging aspects of my current role is that the work can be exhausting and overwhelming at times. The emotional and physical demands of clinical care are very real. However, having strong support from my colleagues and maintaining a healthy work-life balance have made these challenges manageable and have helped reduce the risk of burnout.

6. What do you see yourself doing in 5 years and 10 years?

I see myself continuing in this role and providing the highest quality care to my patients. I'm committed to growing within this position by further developing my clinical skills, strengthening my relationships with patients and families, and contributing to the team and institution in meaningful ways.