

What Running a Global Education Platform Has Taught Me

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Managing a global education platform has been a remarkable journey. With over 40,000 followers across 30 countries, I've had the chance to engage in countless discussions with people from all over the world. Here are some key lessons I've learned along the way.

The Universal Desire to Learn

One of the most inspiring things I've witnessed is people's eagerness to learn. It's amazing to see how many professionals interact with my posts even on weekends. Whether it's early in the morning or late at night, their dedication to improving their knowledge in this field is truly commendable. From newbies to experienced professionals, everyone contributes to the conversation and has something to learn.

Learning from International Colleagues

I deeply appreciate the international interventional cardiologists who share their experiences and choices during cases. These discussions have highlighted the diverse ways different regions achieve great outcomes. It's fascinating to see how varied practices can lead to successful results. It can be easy to get stuck in the 'old way' of doing things. When we have new technologies approved in the United States, there's benefit in reaching out to colleagues overseas who are already proficient in its use, and seeking their feedback and advice.

Variance in the U.S.

In the United States, I've observed a wide range of education levels, thought processes, and standards of care. This diversity can be both a strength and a challenge, reflecting the different approaches within the same country. What works in one facility might not be suitable for another due to varying

resources or patient demographics. It is important to stay open-minded about how others operate, to research, ask questions, and understand their reasoning. Just because "this is the way we've always done it" does not mean it is the best choice for the patient.

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The Overlooked Resource

It is surprising how many people overlook the instructions for use, which is one of the best resources for understanding how to properly use a device. Taking the time to read these instructions can significantly enhance one's ability to use tools effectively. Reading these instructions for use which are included in every device package is a way to know you are getting the correct information. Scrubbing in on a case with a device you have never used and no device representative available? Take the instructions out of the box and familiarize yourself with them!

Addressing Workplace Bullying and Burnout

Unfortunately, workplace bullying and burnout remain significant issues, causing some individuals to consider leaving the field entirely. It is a harsh reality that needs to be addressed to retain and

support our talented professionals. When I ask people about the culture in their labs, the responses are usually mixed. Some labs have encouraging environments where both physicians and staff are eager to teach and answer questions. However, in other labs, burnout is so prevalent it affects how newcomers are treated. Many who message me feel isolated and alone in these situations — questioning their ability to succeed in this field. The good news is there are labs with enriching and supportive cultures worth finding, if yours does not seem interested in a path towards improvement.

Creating a Safe Learning Community

I am grateful for the vulnerable conversations that have taken place on my platform. Creating a safe space where people feel comfortable learning and contributing is something I am very proud of. However, I also recognize there is still work to be done to maintain and improve this environment.

So far this journey has been incredibly enlightening, and I'm excited to continue it with all of you. While we have our Facebook groups, online journals, and local teams, we have never really had a space for daily interactive content like this 'just for us'. My platform thrives because of your engagement and contributions. Thank you for embracing it, and learning during your lunch breaks and early mornings. I look forward to us all continuing to learn and grow together! ■

Contribute to the conversations and engage on our social media platforms!

Disclosure: In this article, I discuss a global education company. As the operator of the company, I may have a personal interest in promoting it. However, I believe speaking about my insights can be valuable to readers and I have included it in this article with the intention of providing helpful information. Please note that any views or opinions expressed on the accounts are my own and not necessarily reflective of the views or opinions of any organizations or individuals mentioned in this article.

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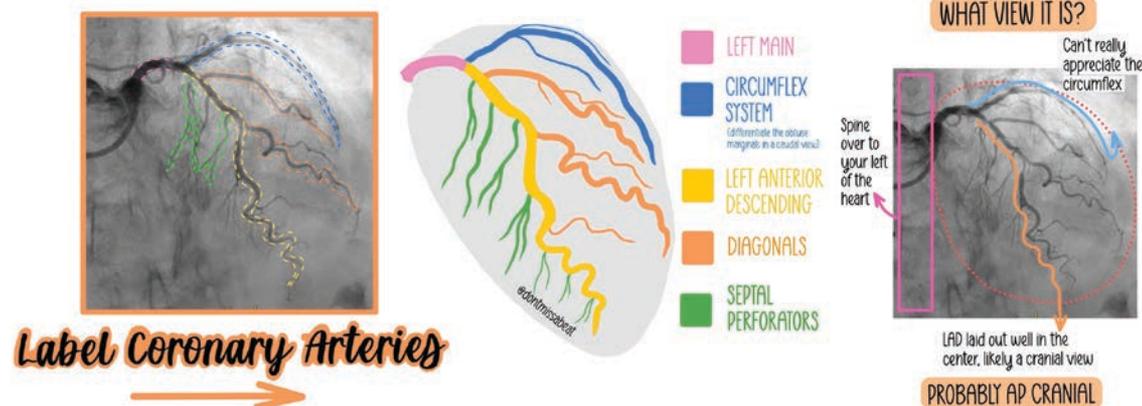


Figure. A coronary anatomy clinical image.

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