



The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University: Class of 2009

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On May 24, 2009, 90 men and women received the Doctor of Medicine degree from The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, representing the 35th class of physicians graduated from our institution since 1975. Of the 2,554 physician graduates of previous classes, approximately 328 (13%) are licensed to practice in Rhode Island. The purpose of this article is to introduce the graduates of the MD Class of 2009 to the physician community in our state.

A PORTRAIT OF THE CLASS OF 2009

Of the 90 graduates, fifty-four were women (59%) and 36 were men (40%). Regarding the class's racial/ethnic composition, 13% are members of minority groups underrepresented in medicine (5 African American and 7 Hispanic students) as defined by the **Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)**. The proportion of students from underrepresented groups among all students at the Medical School at present (combined for the four years) is 17%, although this determination does not take into account the 40 students (10%) in the current medical student population who chose "prefer not to respond" when asked to indicate their ethnicity on their original medical school application.

Eleven of our most recent graduates are residents of Rhode Island. Those graduates came from six different communities: two students from East Greenwich, three from Cumberland, three from Cranston, and one student each from Central Falls, Lincoln, and Providence. Their high schools also reflect this diversity: Cranston High School West, Saint Raphael Academy, The Hotchkiss School in Litchfield, Connecticut, Moses Brown, Bishop Feehan, and Cumberland, East Greenwich, and North Providence high schools.

The largest proportion of students in the MD Class of 2009 comes from the **Program in Liberal Medical Education (PLME)**: 40 graduates (44%).

This medical school has long had admissions agreements with postbaccalaureate premedical programs at Bryn Mawr College, Goucher College, and Columbia University.

Table 1. PGY-1 residency disciplines pursued by members of the MD Class of 2009.

I. Residency Position (includes ALL students with PGY-1 position in MD'09)

Specialty	Number	Percentage
Anesthesiology	1	1.1
Dermatology	2	2.3
Emergency Medicine	6	6.9
Family Medicine	4	4.6
Internal Medicine	18	21
Medicine-Primary	7	8
Medicine-Prelim	1	1.1
Medicine-Pediatrics	2	2.3
Neurology	3	3.4
Neurosurgery	1	1.1
Obstetrics/Gynecology	6	6.9
Ophthalmology	3	3.4
Orthopaedic Surgery	3	3.4
Otolaryngology	1	1.1
Pediatrics	9	10.3
Psychiatry	5	5.7
Radiology	5	5.7
Radiation Oncology	1	1.1
Surgery	4	4.6
Surgery Prelim	3	3.4
Urology	2	2.3
Total	87	100%

Table 2. Specialty Choices for Brown Medical School Classes of 2004 - 2009

Specialty Choice	2009		2008		2007		2006		2005		2004	
	No.	%										
Primary Care, Total	46	51%	35	50%	47	50%	34	38%	32	44%	41	47%
Internal Medicine, Total	25	33%	13	19%	19	20%	17	19%	16	22%	20	20%
Categorical Med	18	13%	13	13%	16	16%			10	14%	15	41%
Primary Care	7	20%	0	0	3	3%			6	8%	5	6%
Pediatrics	9	10%	9	13%	13	14%	9	10%	4	5%	6	6%
Family Medicine	4	4%	6	9%	8	9%	5	6%	7	10%	9	9%
Medicine/Pediatrics	2	2%	3	4%	4	4%	1	1%	2	3%	4	4%
Obstetrics & Gynecology	6	7%	4	6%	3	3%	2	2%	3	4%	2	2%
Surgery	4	4%	5	7%	6	6%	9	10%	3	4%	4	5%
Surgical Subspecialties, Total	10	11%	8	11%	8	9%	10	11%	6	8%	12	14%
Ophthalmology	3	3%	2	3%	0	0%	2	2%	3	4%	5	5%
Orthopedics	3	3%	2	3%	3	3%	4	5	2	3%	3	3%
Neurosurgery	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0	0	0%
Urology	2	2%	2	3%	2	2%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%
Plastic Surgery	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
Otorhinolaryngology	1	1%	0	0%	2	2%	2	2%	0	0%	23	23%
Dermatology	2	2%	1	1%	4	4%	5	6%	5	7%	1	1%
Emergency Medicine	6	7%	5	7%	3	3%	7	8%	3	4%	4	5%
Psychiatry	5	6%	3	4%	8	9%	5	6%	4	5%	4	5%
Neurology	3	3%	1	1%								
Transitional & Preliminary Medicine *	1	1%	1	1%	7	8%	0	0%	1	1%	2	2%
Institutional Specialties, Total	6	7%	9	13%	7	8%	9	10%	9	12%	10	11%
Anesthesiology	1	1%	1	1%	3	3%	2	2%	0	0%	3	3%
Pathology	0	0%	3	4%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%
Rehabilitation Medicine	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
Radiology & Rad. Oncology	5	6%	5	7%	4	4%	6	7%	9	12%	6	6%
Delaying Residency	3	3%	1	1%	2	2%	9	10%	9	12%	0	0%
Not Entering Medicine	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Totals	90	100%	70	100%	93	100%	89	100%	73	100%	79	100%

Table 3. The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University MD Class of 2009

Name	Hospital	Affiliation	Specialty
Albert Ahn	New York University Medical Center	NYU School of Medicine	Medicine-Primary
Thelma Alleyne	Morehouse School of Medicine	Morehouse School of Medicine	Medicine-Prelim
	Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center	Wake Forest University	Radiology
Sonia Aneja	Duke University Medical Center	Duke University School of Medicine	Obstetrics-Gynecology
Marie Audett	University Hospital	University of Cincinnati COM	Surgery
Jeremy Boyd	University Hospital	University of Cincinnati COM	Emergency Medicine
Mark Brady	Yale-New Haven Hospital	Yale University School of Medicine	Emergency Medicine
Matthew Brumbaugh	Rhode Island Hospital	Alpert Medical School	Medicine-Primary
Isis Burgos	Boston University Medical Center	Boston University	Psychiatry
Jocelyn Burke	University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics	University of Wisconsin	Surgery
Stephanie Carter	Strong Memorial Hospital	University of Rochester	Medicine
Flavio Casoy	University of California-San Francisco	University of California-San Francisco SOM	Psychiatry
Florence Chan	Yale-New Haven Hospital	Yale University School of Medicine	Medicine-Primary
Jessica Chan	University of California-San Francisco	University of California-San Francisco SOM	Obstetrics-Gynecology
Rajeev Chaudhry	Duke University Medical Center	Duke University School of Medicine	Surgery-Prelim
	Duke University Medical Center	Duke University School of Medicine	Urology
Sandy Chira	Brown University Internal Medicine Residency	Alpert Medical School	Medicine-Prelim
Makini Chisolm-Straker	Mt. Sinai Hospital	Mt. Sinai School of Medicine	Emergency Medicine
Joanne Chiu	New York Presbyterian	Weill Cornell Medical Center	Pediatrics
Melissa Choi	Methodist Hospital	University of Minnesota Medical School	Family Medicine
Lindsay Clark	Women & Infants' Hospital	Alpert Medical School	Obstetrics-Gynecology
Mark Coomes	William Beaumont Hospital	University of Michigan and Wayne State University	Surgery-Prelim
Mark D'Agostino	Walter Reed Army Medical Center	Walter Reed Army Medical Center	Transitional
	National Capitol Consortium.	National Capitol Consortium	Dermatology
Adam DeHavenon	University of Utah Affiliated Hospitals	University of Utah	Neurology
Anthony Del Signore	Mt. Sinai Hospital	Mt. Sinai School of Medicine	Otolaryngology
David Elson	Yale-New Haven Hospital	Yale University School of Medicine	Medicine-Primary
Lydia Engwenyu	Rush University Medical Center	Rush University	Medicine
R. Mitchell Ermentrout	St. Vincents Hospital	New York Medical College	Transitional
	UC Irvine Medical Center	University of California-Irvine	Radiology
Salma Faghri	Brown University Internal Medicine Residency	Alpert Medical School	Medicine-Prelim
	University of Alabama Medical Center	University of Alabama	Dermatology
Sarah Farley	University of Washington Affiliated Hospitals	University of Washington	Radiology
Jason Ferreira	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	Harvard Medical School	Medicine
Sonia Garg	University of California-San Francisco	University of California-San Francisco SOM	Medicine

Students from these programs decided upon a career in medicine only after completing college. Typically, they have been engaged in other careers for several years following college. The goals in establishing this admission route were to maintain a rich diversity in the student body by admitting students who had different academic and life experiences. Twelve members (13%) of the class were post baccalaureate students, seven from Bryn Mawr, two from Goucher and three from Columbia.

Sixteen students were admitted through the Brown–Dartmouth Medical Education Program in which students spend their first two years of medical school at Dartmouth, and transfer to Brown for the final two years.

Among the remainder of the class, seven students were part of the **Early Identification Program (EIP)**, one from Tougaloo College, four from Providence College, and two students from the University of Rhode Island. EIP students are offered provisional admission to the medical school during their sophomore year at their respective undergraduate colleges. Of the remaining graduates, one entered medical school through the MD/PhD program, two through advanced transfer and two through the Brown Avenue route by which Brown undergraduate students have been brought to the medical school.

The Class of 2009 included ten graduates who entered the medical program via the standard pre-med admissions route. This

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Dina Gewaily	Albert Einstein Medical Center	Jefferson Medical College	Transitional
	Scheie Eye Institute	University of Pennsylvania	Ophthalmology
Sam Glickman	Strong Memorial Hospital	University of Rochester	Medicine
Anna Groskin	Boston University Medical Center	Boston University School of Medicine	Family Medicine
Anna Halpern	University of Chicago Medical Center	University of Chicago	Medicine
Caitlin Hansen	Mt. Sinai Hospital	Mt. Sinai School of Medicine	Pediatrics-Primary
Nadine Harris	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	Vanderbilt University	Medicine
Curtis Henn	Hospital for Special Surgery	Cornell University	Orthopaedic Surgery
Leslie Herrmann	duPont Children's Hospital	Jefferson Medical College	Pediatrics
Tammy Hshieh	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	Harvard Medical School	Medicine
Elizabeth Hutton	Brigham & Women's Hospital	Harvard Medical School	Medicine-Pediatrics
Masataka Kawana	Stanford University Programs	Stanford University School of Medicine	Medicine
Anne Kemble	University of Hawaii	University of Hawaii	Medicine
Nathan Kohler	Shands Hospital	University of Florida College of Medicine	Neurological Surgery
Lindsay Kuroki	Barnes-Jewish Hospital	Washington University	Obstetrics-Gynecology
Hana Kwan	SAUSHEC	Lacklud AFB	Medicine
Joshua Lakin	University of California-San Francisco	University of California-San Francisco SOM	Medicine
Manuel Lam	Stanford University Programs	Stanford University School of Medicine	Medicine
Claire Langran	University of Utah Affiliated Hospitals	University of Utah	Medicine
Shankar LeVine	Alameda County Medical Center	University of San Francisco SOM	Emergency Medicine
Nathaniel Link	University of New Mexico School of Medicine	University of New Mexico School of Medicine	Pediatrics
Jeffrey Liu	Brown University Internal Medicine Residency	Alpert Medical School	Medicine-Prelim
	University of California-San Diego	University of California-San Diego	Ophthalmology
Erin McDermott	Lenox Hill Hospital	New York University	Orthopaedic Surgery
Amy McIntyre	Family Medicine Residency of Idaho	University of Washington	Family Medicine
Richard Myers	Oregon Health & Science University	Oregon Health & Science University SOM	Orthopaedic Surgery
Rachel Ngermaneeponthong	Boston University Medical Center	Boston University	Medicine-Primary
Brian Pham	Semel Institute for Neuroscience	University of California-Los Angeles	Psychiatry
Thao-Ly Phan	duPont Children's Hospital	Jefferson Medical College	Pediatrics
Rachel Rackow	Rhode Island Hospital	Alpert Medical School	Medicine-Primary
Alia Ramos	Temple University Hospital	Temple University	Psychiatry
Priscilla Reyes	Texas Tech University Affiliated-El Paso	Texas Tech University	Emergency Medicine
Christina Rincon	University of California-San Francisco	University of California-San Francisco SOM	Family Medicine
Carmelle Romain	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	Vanderbilt University	Surgery
John Rommel	University of North Carolina Hospital	University of North Carolina	Medicine
Steven Rougas	Rhode Island Hospital	Alpert Medical School	Emergency Medicine
Katharine Schulze	University of California-San Francisco	University of California-San Francisco SOM	Anesthesiology
Mark Scott	University of California-San Francisco	University of California-San Francisco SOM	Surgery-Prelim
Neel Shah	Brigham & Women's Hospital	Harvard Medical School	Obstetrics-Gynecology

group is the first cohort of students representing the reactivated pre-med route.

The most common undergraduate major (44%) was biology (including subdisciplines such as biochemistry, neuroscience, and microbiology). Taken together, science majors (including math, engineering and psychology) accounted for 69% of all majors, while 20% of majors were in the humanities and 11% in the social sciences. Among the humanities majors, history concentrations were

the most common choice while psychology was the most frequent choice among those majoring in the social sciences.

WHERE THEY ARE GOING

Among the disciplines selected for PGY-1 positions by our graduates (Table 1), internal medicine remained the most frequently selected specialty with 26 students representing the combination of categorical, primary care and preliminary internal medicine. Pediatrics was the sec-

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Jesse Soodalter	Brown University Internal Medicine Residency	Alpert Medical School	Medicine
Kirsten Spalding	Brown University Psychiatry Residency	Alpert Medical School	Psychiatry
Jonathan Strutt	St. Louis Children's Hospital	Washington University	Pediatrics
Rosalyn Su	NYU School of Medicine	NYU School of Medicine	Pediatrics
Anil Taner	University of Hawaii	University of Hawaii	Transitional
	University of Maryland Medical Center	University of Maryland	Radiology
Stephanie Tecun	Rhode Island Hospital	Alpert Medical School	Medicine-Pediatrics
Mari Tokita	University of Hawaii	University of Hawaii	Transitional
	University of Washington Affiliated Hospitals	University of Washington	Radiation-Oncology
Beth Toste	McGaw Medical Center	Northwestern University	Obstetrics-Gynecology
James Town	University of Chicago Medical Center	University of Chicago	Medicine
Vicki Tsai	Baylor College of Medicine-Houston	Baylor College of Medicine	Surgery
George Turini	Rhode Island Hospital	Alpert Medical School	Surgery-Prelim
	Rhode Island Hospital	Alpert Medical School	Urology
Marcella Villa	Georgetown University Hospital	Georgetown University	Pediatrics
Clifford Voigt	Rhode Island Hospital	Alpert Medical School	Surgery-Prelim
Alissa Waite	Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center	Dartmouth Medical School	Medicine-Prelim
	Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center	Dartmouth Medical School	Neurology
Sarah Wakeman	Massachusetts General Hospital	Harvard Medical School	Medicine-Primary
Cynthia Wallentin	Roger Williams Medical Center	Tufts University	Medicine-Prelim
	Norwalk Hospital	Yale Medical School	Radiology
Leslie Wei	Colorado Health Foundation	Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center	Transitional
	University of Colorado	University of Colorado	Ophthalmology
Sarah Whittle	Rhode Island Hospital	Alpert Medical School	Pediatrics
Teddy Youn	University of Washington Affiliated Hospitals	University of Washington SOM	Neurology
Jessica Zerillo	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	Harvard Medical School	Medicine

ond most frequent choice (9 graduates). Two graduates entered combined medicine/pediatric residency training. OB/GYN and Emergency Medicine were represented by 6 graduates each. Four of our graduates entered training in family medicine.

Residency choices showed several trends. (Table 2) The proportion of the class entering specialties in primary care (46 students, 51% of graduates) increased from the Class of 2008 (35 students, 50%). Most notable was a marked increase in the number of students entering internal medicine residencies. The number and percentage of graduates entering family medicine was a six-year low at 4 graduates. For the second year in a row, the percent of students entering primary care disciplines slightly exceeded the national level (46.5% for 2008).¹ The past two years represent a reversal of a trend that occurred during the previous

five years. During those years, the percentage of our students pursuing primary care careers declined and was below the national benchmark from 2004 through 2006. However, the actual number of graduates who will eventually practice primary care will be smaller than the 51% reported here. Based on data from the AAMC, we estimate that at most one third of our graduates will actually practice primary care with the remainder pursuing specialty training. As has been the case in previous years, our most recent graduates chose to pursue training in general surgery at a rate lower than the national average (4.0% versus 9.8%) while opting for surgical specialties at a rate higher than the national average (11.1% versus 6.7%).

Table 3 lists the Class of 2009 graduates and their residency training positions. Of the 90 graduates, 87 are entering residency training next year. Three are delaying their residen-

cies. Twelve graduates matched with Brown-affiliated residency programs and will be staying in Rhode Island. California is most popular destination state, soon to become the home for 13 graduates. New York was the third most popular locale with 10 graduates locating there. Of note, 6 graduates will be moving into Harvard-affiliated residency programs, 4 will be going to Yale affiliates, 8 will be training at programs affiliated with the University of California-San Francisco and 2 will be going to Stanford.

Consistent with recent trends, the geographic destinations of our graduates pursuing PGY-1 training (Table 4) shows that a high proportion will pursue training in New England, New York and California. Approximately half of the Class of 2009 will stay in the Northeast and 20% will go to the West Coast.



Table 4. Geographic destination for all MD Class of 2009 graduates moving on to PGY-1 positions.

State	Number	Percentage
California	13	15
Colorado	1	1.1
Connecticut	4	4.6
Delaware	2	2.3
District of Columbia	2	2.3
Florida	1	1.1
Hawaii	1	1.1
Idaho	1	1.1
Illinois	4	4.6
Maryland	1	1.1
Massachusetts	9	10.3
Michigan	1	1.1
Minnesota	1	1.1
Missouri	2	2.3
New Hampshire	1	1.1
New Mexico	1	1.1
New York	10	11.5
North Carolina	4	4.6
Ohio	2	2.3
Oregon	1	1.1
Pennsylvania	2	2.3
Rhode Island	12	13.8
Tennessee	2	2.3
Texas	3	3.5
Utah	2	2.3
Washington	3	3.5
Wisconsin	1	1.1
Total	87	99.6

CONCLUSION

As has been true in previous years, the proportion of Warren Alpert Medical School graduates entering primary care residencies approximates the national data for all US medical school seniors. Residency choices of our graduates indicate a continued trend towards highly competitive specialties. Finally, our graduates continue to compete successfully for highly competitive graduate training programs.

REFERENCES

1. National Resident Matching Program Results and Data, 2008 Main Residency Match, Table 10: U.S. Seniors Matched to PGY-1 Positions by Specialty, April 2008.

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Disclosure of Financial Interests

The authors have no financial interests to disclose.

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