Sabina Singh Interview Questions

1. **What is the best piece of leadership advice you’ve ever received?**
   To not assume that people are coming to you with bad intentions. Never assume the worst in people.

2. **If you could go back in time, what is one piece of leadership advice you would give your future self?**
   Take advantage of opportunities when they arise. Ask more questions to other leaders and how they did it and how it worked for them. Take more formal teaching and opportunities on leadership.

3. **What is one leadership experience, situation, or scenario that you've experienced that you wish everyone in family medicine (students, residents, physicians) could experience?**
   Opportunity to work one on one with a leadership coach, valuable to learn how system works and communication – work on skillset that you do not always get in the medical field. I was late in my career but I still found it very valuable.

4. **Who are your mentors and what did you learn from them to become the physician/leader that you are today?**
   I had a lot of administrative help (VPs, etc). Husband is exec in different industry and was very helpful with learning HR and leadership topics. Physician wise it’s a little different – how do you separate from leadership and tactical efforts.

5. **Why did you choose family medicine and what’s your favorite aspect of it?**
   I chose family medicine because I liked the breadth of care. I love seeing people when they are healthy and not always sick. I love working with families and getting to know them – knowing their life in and out of the office. Being able to take care of them in all aspects of life.

6. **What does leadership mean to you?**
   Guiding and coaching people to try and get a good result – move the operations forward – learn how to treat patients and staff how you want to be treated. Listening to concerns and come up with workable solutions.

7. **What is the most memorable experience you have had when dealing with a patient?**
   That is a tough question to answer. There are so many wonderful experiences I have had with my patients over the years, it is just not possible to choose just one instance that made me love my job.

8. **What qualities make a great leader in family medicine? How have you taken these qualities into your practice and community outreach?**
   a. Good listening – trying to provide constructive feedback
   b. Trying to get buy in from staff, patients, and admin – trying to get the results you are aiming for
   c. Being prepared – I prefer to be well versed in what I do before I make recommendations
   d. Still learning and managing ways to communicate – I really try to understand where the patient is coming from
   e. Understanding your mission and vision and never losing sight of that.

9. **Who or what inspired you to pursue family medicine?**
a. I don’t know if it was so much of a “who”
b. In med school there was a lot of talk about family medicine and it was a good fit from the beginning – it felt right
c. I did a 8-week externship that really convinced me and showed me that this is what I wanted and what I wanted to pursue
d. This is what worked for me, this is what I fell in love with and what fit my personality.

10. What piece of advice would you give to your younger self? To a medical student interested in, or a new family medicine resident?
   a. I think fam med is difficult but very rewarding
   b. Dealing a lot with social issues and dealing with families with complicated relationships – so learning how to handle these situations and how to assist with those can be very important
   c. Learning patience with patients – it will take time to build relationships, and you need to be able to have patience and trust the process
   d. You are a leader – even when you are just starting out there will be more people behind you watching and looking to learn from you.