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Oncology is a field that brings together a true army of healthcare professionals, scientists and clinical researchers at many different levels, all united in the fight alongside patients facing complex illnesses that are often life-altering and, at times, without a cure. One of the aspects that initially attracted me most to oncology was the importance of remaining present when many others leave — standing beside patients during the most difficult and vulnerable moments of their lives. For me, that human and professional presence has always carried immense value.

Another element that has continuously inspired me is the dynamic and constantly evolving nature of the specialty. Oncology changes every day. New research, innovative treatments, clinical trials and scientific discoveries continuously transform the way we understand and treat cancer. That constant evolution and lifelong learning make oncology both intellectually stimulating and profoundly meaningful.

In 2010, I began working in locum tenens, which allowed me to practice medicine independently and with flexibility. This path gave me the opportunity to organize my time, structure my professional life and fully dedicate myself to patient care while maintaining balance and autonomy. More importantly, it gave me the ability to bring my knowledge, dedication, humanitarian values and clinical experience directly to the communities that needed them most.

My experiences in different locations and communities have allowed me to grow tremendously, both professionally and personally, while broadening my perspective and deepening my understanding of the diverse realities patients face throughout the country. I've gained a deeper understanding of the limitations many patients face in accessing healthcare, achieving healthcare equity and navigating complex medical systems, whether in community clinics, private practices or academic centers.

Through this work, my role has extended far beyond simply providing medical treatment. It has also involved helping patients gain access to clinical trials, emerging therapies, scientific advancements and specialized care — particularly patients living in remote or underserved communities who may otherwise never receive education or exposure to such opportunities. Serving as a bridge between these patients and potentially life-changing treatments has been one of the most meaningful aspects of my career.

My experience with locums has truly been an honor. The fact that patients allow me into their lives and trust me during some of their most vulnerable moments has not only changed my perspective as a physician but has also enriched me profoundly as a human being."

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