

Natalie Mecklenburg

Ms. Smith

Internship 4B

15 November 2024

Annotated Bibliography #3

Curcio, Brittany. Personal Interview Conducted by Natalie Mecklenburg. 4 October 2024.

On October 4th, 2024, I had the privilege of sitting down with clinician Brittany Curcio and discussing her career. Brittany lived in Connecticut until she did her residency in New Jersey. She also went to school at the University of Hartford. Brittany talked about how she came to Hanger after her residency and how she has enjoyed it. She mentioned that there are very few prosthetic programs in the U.S.A. One main part of the job she enjoys is getting to be creative as she troubleshoots devices for patients. She also enjoys spending some time interacting with patients, and also having some time alone. Her job title is a certified prosthetist/orthotist, and she has a Master of Science in Prosthetics and Orthotics. She highlighted that she enjoys Hanger because of the work environment and the resources they give their clinicians. Hanger pays for the exams prosthetists must take, and Hanger Clinic has a great education program with many resources. Brittany loves her job and Hanger, but if she had to pick, her least favorite part would be having to tell patients when insurance won't cover a prosthetic for them.

Brittany is a reliable source for an interview because she is a certified prosthetist. She has received a master's level education, done her residency, and worked at Hanger for multiple years. In a residency, one works under experts who ensure they are learning. Certified prosthetists also have to complete ongoing credits to ensure they keep up with the growing field of prosthetics, so this ensures Brittant stays up to date on technology. She is especially skilled when working with

upper limbs and is certified to work with multiple prosthetic devices like the WalkAide. Overall, Brittany is a certified professional prosthetist with many years of experience in the field making her an extremely reliable source.

This interview was extremely helpful in gaining another viewpoint on the career. Seeing another successful younger woman in this field and hearing about her journey of becoming a prosthetist could help inspire someone to pursue this career. Hearing about Brittany's education and where she went could also help someone understand the education requirements and process of becoming a certified prosthetist better. Listening to her favorite parts of the job, like working directly with patients and getting to be creative, directly points out positive aspects of this career, which can help someone who is trying to decide between this career and another. Overall, Brittany Curcio's story is truly inspiring to anyone who is looking to pursue or learn more about the field of prosthetics.