

**Supplemental Digital Appendix 1 for Jena AB, Arora VM, Hauer KE, et al. The Prevalence and Nature of Post-Interview Communications Between Residency Programs and Applicants During the Match. Acad Med. 2012;87(10).**

Dear Graduating Medical Student,

Every year, 4th year medical students participate in the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP). As part of the Match process, applicants interview with programs and often communicate with them after the interview. These post-interview communications sometimes involve e-mails, letters, or phone calls in which applicants and programs express interest in one another.

The following survey was developed to better understand the frequency and nature of these communications and to examine how these communications affect applicants' experience with the Match. The study researchers are: Anupam B. Jena, MD PhD (Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School), Shalini Reddy, MD (University of Chicago), Vinny Arora, MD (University of Chicago), David Meltzer MD PhD (University of Chicago). This study has received Institutional Review Board approval or exemption at all participating sites.

You are being asked to participate in this survey because you are a fourth year medical student at one of the participating sites. We would be grateful if you could take 10-15 minutes to complete the survey.

The survey is being conducted at 8 medical schools nationally and will be distributed to 1,063 students. Your responses will be analyzed with the data from all the other sites and your responses cannot be linked to your email address. Thus, your identity will remain completely anonymous. Neither I nor any of the site investigators will have access to individual responses. The information that you provide may help educators to better understand the challenges faced by graduating medical students in interpreting signals from and communicating interest to residency programs in the Match.

If you agree to participate, please proceed by clicking the button below. If you have questions about the study, please feel free to contact me at (773) 834-5216 or Dr. Vineet Arora (773) 702-8157. If you have questions about the study and do not wish to contact me or Dr. Arora, you may contact the University of Chicago's Institutional Review Board, which is concerned with the protection of volunteers in research projects. You may reach the committee office between 8:30am and 5pm, Monday through Friday, by calling (773) 702-6505, or by writing:  
Institutional Review Board, University of Chicago, 5751 S. Woodlawn Ave., McGiffert Hall, Chicago, Illinois 60637.

Thank you very much for your cooperation and congratulations on your recent Match.

Sincerely,

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Associate Professor of Medicine  
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**1. What is your gender?**

Female

Male

**2. Do you classify yourself as an underrepresented minority?**

Yes

No

\* **3. Did you obtain an advanced degree during your time in medical school? (e.g. MD/PhD, MD/MPH, MD/MBA, etc)**

Yes

No

\* **4. Are you a member of your school's AOA chapter? (Note-please answer no if you were designated as AOA eligible rather than as a member.)**

Yes

No

\* **5. In which third of your class will you graduate?**

Top 1/3

Middle 1/3

Bottom 1/3

N/A; my school does not tell us our class standing

\* **6. What grade did you ultimately receive during your required clerkship in the specialty to which you applied? If there is no required clerkship in your main specialty, please answer N/A.**

Honors

High Pass

Pass

Low Pass

Fail

N/A

Other (please specify)

\* **7. To which main specialty did you apply (i.e. not a "back-up" specialty, preliminary year or transitional year program)**

Other (please specify)

\* **8. How many programs did you apply to in your main specialty?**

Other (please specify)

\* **9. How many interview invitations did you receive in the main specialty to which you applied?**

Other (please specify)

\* **10. How many programs did you interview with for the main specialty to which you applied?**

Other (please specify)

\* 11. How many times were you asked a question about a significant other during your interviews?

\* 12. Did you couples match?

Yes

No

\* 13. Were you contacted by a residency program after you interviewed?

Yes

No

### 14. From how many programs did you receive the following communications from any of these individuals?

	Number of programs contacting you by e-mail	Number of programs contacting you by phone
Program director (PD)	6	6
Associate program director (APD)	6	6
Faculty interviewer (not PD or APD)	6	6
Resident from the program where I interviewed	6	6
Alumnus from my medical school who is currently in the program	6	6
Department chair	6	6
Other (please specify the role of the individual and how they contacted you)	5	6

**15. Among the programs that contacted you, how many asked where you would be ranking them?**

**16. Among the programs that contacted you, how many explicitly stated the following?**

Number of programs who made the statement

That you would fit well into their program

That you will be ranked highly at their program

That you would match at their program if you wanted to (i.e. "ranked to match")

Other (please specify)



**17. Did you move any programs up or down on your rank list based on post-interview communications with residency programs?**

Yes

No

**\* 18. Did anyone recommend that you tell one or more programs that you would rank them first?**

Yes

No

**19. Who recommended that you notify your number one program? (check all that apply)**

- Alumnus from your school
- Department chair from another institution
- Department chair from your institution
- Faculty advisor in the specialty
- Faculty advisor not in your intended specialty
- Fellow applicant
- Parent
- Program director from other program
- Program director from your medical school
- Residents in the specialty
- Significant other
- Web-based resources (e.g. student-doctor.net)

Other (please specify)

\* 20. Where on your rank list did you put the program where you ultimately matched?

**\* 21. Some applicants expect to match at a particular program and are disappointed when they do not match there. Select the statement that best reflects your experience in this year's match.**

- I was explicitly told by a program that I would match there if I wanted to. I ranked it above others, but I did not match there.
- Although I was not explicitly told that I would match at the program, I felt that I would match there based on feedback I received. I ranked it above others, but I did not match there.
- Neither apply

**\* 22. Some residency programs pay special attention to applicants from their own affiliated medical school. Select the statement that best reflects your experience in this year's match.**

- I was explicitly told by my own medical school's main affiliated residency program that I could match there if I wanted to.
- Although I was not explicitly told that I would match at my own medical school's affiliated residency program, I expected to match there based on encouraging post-interview feedback from the program.
- Although I was not explicitly told that I would match at my own medical school's affiliated residency program, I expected to match there because it is my home institution.
- Neither apply

★ **23. Please select which of the following apply to you:**

I told **only** my top choice program that I would rank them **first**.

I told more than one program that I would rank them **first**.

I did not tell any programs that I would rank them first on my match list.

★ **24. Please select which of the following statements apply to you:**

I told **only** my top choice program that I would rank them **highly**.

I told more than one program that I would rank them **highly**.

I did not tell any programs that I would rank them highly on my match list.

**\* 25. Overall communication with program directors, faculty, and/or residents after interviews was helpful to me in selecting a residency position.**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neutral

Disagree

Strongly disagree

I did not communicate with programs after I interviewed and before I matched.

**\* 26. The decision about whether and/or how to communicate with residency programs after my interviews was stressful.**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neutral

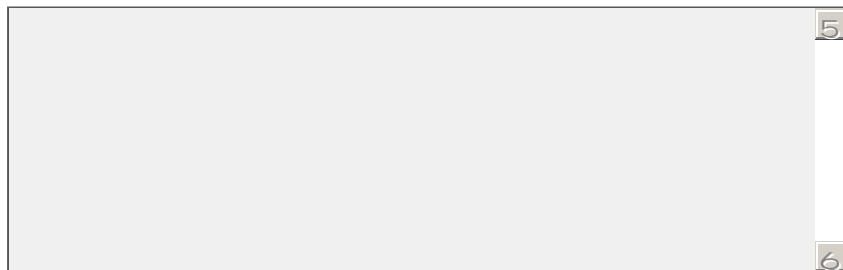
Disagree

Strongly disagree

I did not communicate with any programs after I interviewed and before I matched.



**27. If you have additional comments about the post-interview Match process, please let us know in the box below.**



**Thank you for participating in this survey!**