GI fellowship match during the COVID-19 pandemic

We are trying to determine best practices for virtual interviews based on our collective experience with gastroenterology interviews during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are requesting you to complete a short questionnaire consisting of 16 questions. This should take approximately 5 minutes of your time.

We would greatly appreciate if you could submit your responses at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

1. Did you provide a welcome packet?  
   - No  
   - Yes  
   - Not sure

2. Did you provide a virtual tour?  
   - No  
   - Yes  
   - Not sure

3. Did you have a session where applicants could interact with fellows without faculty being present?  
   - No  
   - Yes  
   - Not sure

4. What was the most common ratio of applicant:faculty for the interviews you participated in?  
   - 1:1  
   - 1:2  
   - 1:3  
   - 1:4 or more

5. How long was each interview slot?  
   - 15 minutes  
   - 20 minutes  
   - 30 minutes  
   - 45 minutes  
   - 60 minutes

6. Compared to years prior, how many applicants did you interview this year?  
   - A lot less  
   - A little less  
   - Same number  
   - A little more  
   - A lot more

7. Compared to years prior, how much time did you spend screening each application prior to selecting candidates for interview?  
   - A lot less  
   - A little less  
   - Same amount  
   - A little more  
   - A lot more

8. Overall, how satisfied were you with your ability to have an understanding with each of the following during virtual interviews? Please select one for each statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Extremely dissatisfied</th>
<th>Somewhat dissatisfied</th>
<th>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied</th>
<th>Somewhat satisfied</th>
<th>Extremely satisfied</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant's background</td>
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<td>Interpersonal skills</td>
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</table>
9. Overall, how satisfied were you with each of the following during virtual interviews? Please select one for each statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Extremely dissatisfied</th>
<th>Somewhat dissatisfied</th>
<th>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied</th>
<th>Somewhat satisfied</th>
<th>Extremely satisfied</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
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<td>Your ability to highlight the endoscopy units and other facilities</td>
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<td>Applicant exposure to GI faculty</td>
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<td>Applicant exposure to current GI fellows</td>
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<td>Your ability to use the virtual interview platform (i.e. Zoom) effectively</td>
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10. How strong of a factor was the applicant performance on the virtual interview day on your final rank list?

- Not at all a factor
- Not a big factor
- Neutral
- Somewhat a big factor
- Very big factor

11. Rank, in order of importance, the factors that impacted your ranking of fellowship applicants this year (1=least important, 8=most important). You can only choose each answer once.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>1 (least important)</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8 (most important)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Geographic proximity to your institution</td>
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<td>Reputation of their training program</td>
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<td>Letters of recommendation</td>
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<td>Academic potential</td>
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<td>Performance on interview day</td>
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<td>United States medical licensing examination (USMLE) scores</td>
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<td>Personal statement</td>
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<td>Medical student performance evaluation (MSPE)</td>
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12. What was your overall level of satisfaction with virtual interviews?

- Extremely dissatisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Extremely satisfied
13. How would you rate your actual virtual interview experience with applicants in comparison to your predetermined thoughts on virtual interviews prior to start of interviews?

- Significantly below expectations
- Below expectations
- Meets expectations
- Above expectations
- Significantly above expectations

14. Going forward, which of the following interview formats would you prefer?

- In-person interview only
- Virtual interview only
- Either but not both
- Combination of both

15. If an applicant was offered both a virtual and in-person interview option and chose the virtual option, how would you view this applicant's level of interest in your program compared to if they had chosen an in-person interview option?

- Extremely uninterested
- Somewhat uninterested
- Neither interested nor uninterested
- Somewhat interested
- Extremely interested

16. Was there anything else about your virtual interview experience that you would like to provide feedback on? __________________________________________

Supplementary figure 1. Survey questions for program directors. Used with permission from *Techniques and Innovations in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*, Kamboj AK, Raffals LE, Martin JA, Chandrasekhara V. Pages 159-168. ©Elsevier.