Medical Student Experience with Post-Interview Communication

You are invited to voluntarily complete an anonymous 23-item survey about the prevalence and content of post-interview communication, as well as your opinions of the practice. The survey should take less than 10 minutes.

For the purposes of this study, post-interview communication refers to “communication initiated by the program to an applicant after the interview by a faculty member/Program Director/Chairperson at the institution, but before final rank lists are due.”

The NRMP Code of Conduct states, “program directors shall not solicit or require post-interview communication from applicants, nor shall program directors engage in post-interview communication that is disingenuous for the purpose of influencing applicants’ ranking preferences.” Additionally, orthopaedic leadership through the AOA/CORD have recently published a position statement regarding the need to eliminate “any and all post-interview communication.”

Thank you for your participation.

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How many programs did you apply to?  
- Less than 20 programs  
- 21-40 programs  
- 41-60 programs  
- 61-80 programs  
- 81-100 programs  
- >100 programs

How many visiting student orthopaedic electives/away rotations did you complete?  
- 1  
- 2  
- 3  
- 4  
- 5  
- 6

Did you receive any post-interview communication from an attending/chairperson/program director after your interview with the program? (NOTE: this does NOT include communication with current residents)  
- Yes  
- No  
- N/A

How many programs did you receive post interview communication from?  
- 1  
- 2-4  
- 5-7  
- 8-10  
- >10
Where are the programs that participated in post-interview communication located? (check all that apply)

- 1. Southwest
- 2. Northwest
- 3. South
- 4. Midwest
- 5. Southeast
- 6. Northeast

Who from the program did the communicating? (check all that apply)

- Associate Program Director
- Chairperson
- Faculty
- Program Director
- Resident with specific aim of soliciting a rank response commitment (note: this is not a resident that you may have bonded with who is altruistically answering questions and not seeking to coerce/manipulate your rank list)
- Secretary/Program Coordinator
- Other

Other:

What was the format of the post-interview communication? (check all that apply)

- Phone call
- Letter (mail)
- Email
- Text message
- Other
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Both (i.e. some programs asked, others did not)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did the program(s) request to know where that particular program was ranked on your rank list?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Did the program(s) tell you where you were ranked on the program's rank list?</td>
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<td>How did the post-interview communication make you feel? (check all that apply)</td>
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<td>Did the program(s) indicate they would rank you at the top of the list if you ranked them #1?</td>
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<td>Did the post-interview communication cause you to change your rank list order to rank the communicating program(s) higher?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Did the post-interview communication cause you to change your rank list to rank the program(s) lower?</td>
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<td>After the post-interview communication, were you under the impression that if you ranked the program first you would match there?</td>
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<td>If you ranked the communicating program first did you match at that program?</td>
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<td>Please list the programs that participated in post-interview communication with you:</td>
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<td>Approximately, what percentage of programs mentioned that communication from applicants to faculty (including thank you cards or e-mails) was actively discouraged/would not change the ranking process?</td>
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Other:

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Other:

__________________________________

Other:

__________________________________

Other:

__________________________________
Did any programs announce at the interview day that they would not be contacting the applicants with post-interview communication?  

- Yes
- No

Did any of these programs still contact the applicants even after announcing they would not?  

- Yes
- No

On a scale of 1-5 please rank how much you agree with the following statement: 
I believe post-interview communication by the program causes added stress to the applicant.

- 1. Strongly Disagree
- 2. Disagree
- 3. Neutral
- 4. Agree
- 5. Strongly Agree

On a scale of 1-5, please rank how much you agree with the following statement: 
I believe that when applicants are told they are "ranked to match" after their interview, it could cause distress because of pressure to affirm interest in the program.

- 1. Strongly Disagree
- 2. Disagree
- 3. Neutral
- 4. Agree
- 5. Strongly Agree

On a scale of 1-5, please rank how much you agree with the following statement: 
I believe some programs are disingenuous with their post-interview communication (i.e. falsely telling an applicant they are ranked to match).

- 1. Strongly Disagree
- 2. Disagree
- 3. Neutral
- 4. Agree
- 5. Strongly Agree

On a scale of 1-5, please rank how much you agree with the following statement: 
I believe all programs should stop participating in any form of post-interview communication.

- 1. Strongly Disagree
- 2. Disagree
- 3. Neutral
- 4. Agree
- 5. Strongly Agree

On a scale of 1-5, please rank how much you agree with the following statement: 
I believe post-interview communication initiated by a program is essential to the match process.

- 1. Strongly Disagree
- 2. Disagree
- 3. Neutral
- 4. Agree
- 5. Strongly Agree

On a scale of 1-5, please rank how much you agree with the following statements: 
I would feel relieved if programs explicitly discouraged all forms of communication by applicants to programs (thank you notes, emails)

- 1. Strongly Disagree
- 2. Disagree
- 3. Neutral
- 4. Agree
- 5. Strongly Agree

What ethnicity do you associate with? (check all that apply)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Caucasian
- Hispanic or Latin
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
- Other

What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say
- Other preferred description

Please enter other preferred gender description: ________________________________
If you have any additional comments pertaining to post-interview communication, please provide them here:

__________________________________________