

Mentor Assessment 5

Name of Mentor: Dr. John Mansour

Profession: Surgical Oncologist

Location: U.T.S.W. Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center

Date of Visit: February 9, 2018

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.

Assessment:

The primary purpose of my meeting with Dr. Mansour today was to discuss our plans for the future of my two sets of analysis and my final product for the 2017-2018 school year. The original plan was to write a descriptive paper detailing the findings of the two databases and the analysis performed on them, and after speaking with Dr. Mansour today that still appears to be the route we are going to take. In order to ensure exactness for the paper, however, there were quite a few technicalities that Dr. Mansour had to point out and that I had to correct. This is simply to ensure that my paper contains only the highest quality work and to make sure that all of the information being put into this paper is entirely accurate with relevant analysis.

There were a few significant details that had been lost in my analysis and in translation. They were minute, but enough to make a difference. The first thing I need to update is at which interval I am measuring the percent of original body weight lost or gained by each patient. I was formerly measuring it at the final interval, looking at the total percentage of original body weight lost or gained. This was the value I was using for my calculations, however Dr. Mansour informed me that it would be slightly more accurate to calculate my P values and perform my analysis with the minimum weight of each patient. This would measure the bottom vertex of each patient's weight loss trend, looking at the maximum percentage of original body weight lost instead of just the total or final percentage of original body weight lost. This is something I will have to go back and change in each database, both the database for curative resections for gastric cancer and curative resections for pancreatic cancer, to ensure that the data and analysis is standard across the board. Maintaining a standard, or sort of control, between the two groups is incredibly important, as it is imperative I do not add too many variables into this equation.

There were a couple other minor mistakes, primarily in word choice and one mistake in my P value calculation, although I actually caught that before Dr. Mansour did. These are minor things I will need to adjust, as I want to be absolutely certain of the professionalism and the quality of this product I am putting out. As it will be my final product for Independent Study and Mentorship as a whole, I want to be confident and entirely proud of my work, knowing full well that it is free of mistakes and errors.

We also discussed the future of my unpaid internship through U.T. Southwestern Medical Center, as it has kind of been at a standstill from the beginning of the process. Unfortunately, there is quite a bit of red tape to cut through, as the fact that Clement's University Hospital is a teaching hospital complicates the ordeal quite a bit. However, it seems that Dr. Mansour, myself, and Ms. Singletary have come up with a plausible solution and I am quite excited to finally get into the operating rooms many more times before I have to move to Waco and start a new chapter of my life.