

How Much has the Pandemic Influence Our Practice?

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Each one of the Pandemic prognoses have proven to be far away from what has really happened, particularly for South America. The virus has impacted every aspect of our lives including our daily work and mainly our health. We have recently recovered some hope related to the vaccination program. Some countries have been more efficient during this process, but unfortunately its availability is not the same everywhere. In Chile we are lucky that almost one fourth of the population has already received the vaccine, beginning by the high-risk population. Anyway, spending less time at the operating room has a good side that everyone has experienced differently. Spending most of the time with the family, understanding the situations and how vulnerable the things going on in our daily life, how convoluted to understand these all politics and economic decisions, how much it is necessary to communicate with each other and to share the thoughts and our experiences.

Most of us have already seen our regular hectic schedules with a rising number of patients that has force us to repeal our all-elective surgeries and to stay at home in this lockdown. Probably this is the time we are going through, has given a chance to think about the life, what can we do for others and specially as doctors. We have been pushed to implement new ideas and create new ways in medical education, research and how to practice medicine. More of, a new way of living and how important it is.

Remote education will probably stay to some point, but face to face teaching will always be needed for medical doctors. As we all know, the best education comes not from reading or listening to a lecture but from case discussion and supervised medical practice. It has led us to think how important research is and how important is that all of us give our best for our patients. Treating our patients well, forces us to be informed, updated about new knowledge, practice our skills but at the same time never stop looking for the answers we need. The righteous circle should be a good doctor and always need to include continuous clinical practice, medical education and research.

When I realize I am getting older, I compensate extra attention to the basis of my daily clinical practice which can begins with a proper information which is provided by medical education and good research work like this journal. But obtaining information is just about the beginning of a good medical practice, all the rest, and the most important part of the practice will comes from being a great human being and truly and heartfully interested in doing all the best things for his patients every minute. It has always astonished me that everyone who I cherished as a doctor, is at the same time a teacher, a researcher and a fascinating human being. This journal is the result of a group of people who are genuinely committed to learn, teach and investigate in a friendly assessment of knowledge.

It all initiated about two weeks back near a Black Lives Matter rally in Poway when Emmanuel Cafferty, a San Diego Gas and Electric employee, encountered a stranger on the roadway. The stranger chased Cafferty and took a picture of him as his arm swaying out the window of his company truck. The picture made the rounds on Twitter escorted by a claim Cafferty was making a "white power" hand gesture made prominent by white supremacists' groups.

According to the Anti-Defamation League, the indication -- made by forming a circle with the thumb and index finger, and extending and segregating the other three fingers -- has been used in recent years by white supremacists to form the letters W and P, but has also long been used as a sign signifying "OK" or approval. Therefore, it shouldn't be assumed to be a white supremacy symbol unless there is other evidence to support those claims, according to the ADL.

Cafferty said he was just popping his knuckles.

Soon after the encounter, a supervisor of Cafferty's told him he was suspended and that further action may be taken after an investigation. A few days later, he says he was fired.

Cafferty maintains he was unaware of the hand gesture until the whole controversy started.

“When my supervisor said that I was being accused of doing a white supremacist gesture, that was baffling” Cafferty told NBC 7 on Monday.

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