

Why did you choose to be a Doctor?

I've always wanted to deliver babies. I've always been fascinated by pregnancy and it's usually a happy part of the hospital. I'm also passionate about women's health and educating young women about safe sex and STIs.

Ultimately though, I just wanted to help people.

What has been on of the highlights of your career so far?

Delivering my first baby was pretty awesome! It's a lot more technical than you think despite being one of the most natural things in the world.



this issue
Dr Nicole
Stamatopoulos

Family, Birth and being heard.

How do you believe NSW Health can do things better for JMOs?

I think they've already done some great things with the help of ASMOF- safe working hours, better secondment facilities.

One major issue is the underpayment with the pay systems. You need a degree just to read your payslip and not even the administrators who do the paperwork for the pays know how to read it. This really needs to be addressed as well as the underpayments as a fault of the system. I know there is a finite budget, but we as Doctors work hard and deserve to be paid accordingly.

Likewise, when it comes to urgent pays. Waiting until the next pay cycle is just not good enough, nor is it expected that JMOs not get paid for unrostered overtime. This is a well-known issue at some big hospitals.

How would you like to see ASMOF change in the future to better cater to JMO's needs?

I think there is still some improvement that needs to be done with respect to secondment facilities. We are adults, and as such deserve our own space. Many of us also have families that need to be taken into account. This is not always facilitated at some sites. If you want us to work at different sites, you need to cater to the variety of different lives people have.

Doctors deserve to be paid for unrostered overtime. I would like to see this happen.

If you weren't a Doctor, what would you be doing instead?

If I weren't a Doctor, I'd probably working as a Pharmacist, maybe even own one.

Why is being part of a Union important to you?

The Union is important as it is the first time that Doctors have had a voice. There someone to represent us with the big issues and fight for what's important to us.

"People will listen if there are enough Doctors pushing for change. The Union does this by bringing us together."

The staff at ASMOF are efficient at acting on behalf of their members and getting results. It is often difficult to find time in the day to resolve an issue yourself. They are also very approachable and personable. I have had issues with my pay and they have been fantastic at sorting it out.

The travel insurance is also pretty good!

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What do you do when you aren't working?

I love to bake, go to the beach, drink a coffee and spend time with my family.