

ENT (OTOLARYNGOLOGY)

Specialty: ENT

Advisor for Specialty (if you had one): Dr. Spiegel

Did you use ERAS or SFMatch or Other: ERAS

Number of programs applied to: 52 Was this number sufficient? Yes

Number of interviews attended for specialty: 12 Was this number sufficient? Yes

Interview season: 11/22 to 1/27

Typical structure of interview day: ½ day tour, informal Q&A with residents, lunch. ½ day 5-15 interviews, typically 15-25 minutes each.

Popular topics covered in the interviews: Why ENT? What are your strengths/weaknesses? Tell me about your research projects. Many times, I got ‘what accomplishment are you most proud of and why?’ MOST OFTEN, they ask you 1-2 quick/nonsense questions and then ask you if you have any questions. This is annoying because then you have to fill the entire 20 minutes stressing to think up questions (that you usually already have the answer to.) Really try to make a list before you start the season. Also, ask subspecialty and physician specific questions if you can.

Some difficult questions/unusual tasks (tying knots, etc.): Memphis- asked to peel an apple while answering questions. Weird riddle at Cleveland clinic about giving CPR to some guy on the street with AIDS and both of you have open cuts on your mouth. Apparently the right answer is to instruct the guy’s boyfriend on how to give the mouth to mouth since he already has AIDS too. Ohio State- discussed the difference between ‘art’ and ‘science’ for 20 min. Regardless, I think showing your grace under pressure is much more important than your answer.

How did you prepare for your interviews? How to Get Into a Residency by Iserson (red book) has a lot of typical questions in it with the ‘correct’ answers. Don’t buy it, just read it at the bookstore.

Did you do an away rotation in your specialty field? Yes. It’s helpful to see how programs differ, what you’re looking for, and what questions to ask on interviews. Word of caution when going for reaches – sometimes there might be multiple students rotating when you are (esp. at prestigious programs) and you may not have an opportunity to really show off your work ethic. And the attendings may be too high profile to give a shit about you. But if the residents like you, you’ll probably still end up with a good letter from someone famous.

Additional comments/advice: WORK YOUR ASS OFF when you do your Jeff/away rotations. See as many pts. In the morning as you can thoroughly, and try to make everyone’s life easier. Be mindful of your attitude. Be sure to do research projects.

Specialty: Otolaryngology

Advisor for Specialty (if you had one): Dr. Joseph Spiegel

Did you use ERAS or SFMatch or Other: ERAS

Number of programs applied to: 44 Was this number sufficient? Yes

Number of interviews attended for specialty: 12 Was this number sufficient? Yes

Interview season (month/year): 11/05 to 2/06

Typical structure of interview day: Continental Breakfast, intro talk by Chairman, Residency Director, others. Then, either interviews for three or four hours, lunch, and a tour of the facilities, or the same activities with the interviews and tour reversed in position.

Popular topics covered in the interviews: Why ENT, why their program in general, what sets you apart from other applicants, research interests/research conducted, future goals (esp. academics versus private practice), explanations of items mentioned in personal statement, strengths, weaknesses

Some difficult questions/unusual tasks (tying knots, etc.): tying knots and identifying temporal bone structures (U of S. Florida), workup of a trauma case (U of Maryland), mind teaser (U of Maryland)

How did you prepare for your interviews? First interview I looked at the prospectus for hours, memorized all the specific areas of each attending, obsessed over my own research projects. Then, for the second interview, I combed my hair neat and made sure my suit was not wrinkled. Maybe I looked at their website for a half hour the night before.

Did you do an away rotation in your specialty field? Yes, very much so. It was addressed in nearly every interview.

Additional comments/advice: Try your best to make yourself stand out as an individual in your personal statement and the outside interests portion of your application (but within reason...surgeons tend to be very conservative in general).

May future applicants in your specialty contact you for advice? Email: Maxwell.furr@jefferson.edu

Specialty: Otolaryngology

Advisor for Specialty (if you had one): Dr. Edmund Pribitkin

Did you use ERAS or SFMatch or Other: ERAS

Number of programs applied to: 49

Was this number sufficient? Yes

Number of interviews attended for specialty: 14

Was this number sufficient? Yes

Interview season (month/year): 10/05 to 2/06

Typical structure of interview day: Introduction, interviews/tour in AM, lunch, interviews/tour in PM, dismissal

Popular topics covered in the interviews: Research, a "little about me" (ie, my family, where I grew up, went to college, etc), my questions, ethical situations

Some difficult questions/unusual tasks (tying knots, etc.): Ethical situations, why should we believe you want to come here, what should I really focus on in your application

How did you prepare for your interviews? Printed out website information, read it so I had a good clue about the program, had questions before interview, GO TO "MEET THE RESIDENT" GET-TOGETHERS – they help get to know if you can hang out with the residents

Did you do an away rotation in your specialty field? Yes Did you find this helpful as an applicant? Yes

Additional comments/advice: Know your application - especially your research, you don't have to have questions – but if you don't have general BS questions than ask personal questions to the interviewer

May future applicants in your specialty contact you for advice? Email: Cory.Rubin@jefferson.edu
