

Title

Surgeon as an Administrator: The Journey of a Neurosurgeon and a University Vice Chancellor

Introduction:

As a Neurosurgeon by profession and now as the Vice Chancellor of Dr.YSR University of Health Sciences, I have witnessed the intricate connection between surgery, leadership, and academia. This article aims to shed light on the multifaceted life of a surgeon, particularly a neurosurgeon, and the transition to a role of administration and academic leadership. It also emphasizes the importance of continuous learning, perseverance, and the value of human connections in both fields.

The Surgeon: An Administrator and a Leader

The life of a surgeon is a testimony to dedication and the pursuit of excellence. The ability to perform intricate operations, such as an Extradural Hematoma (EDH) procedure in just 10 minutes, or identifying hypotensive shock early, demonstrates the surgeon's exceptional skills and swift decision-making abilities. However, it is essential to remember that the path to success in surgery is paved with challenges and complications. As the saying goes, "If someone says they don't have complications in surgery, either they are lying or have not operated enough"

Surgeons are not just skilled technicians; they are also leaders. They learn to make firm decisions, accept their failures, and continuously improve themselves. The operating room becomes a place where surgeons not only save lives but also teach and inspire their colleagues and future generations. They need to be a leader of the team to manage the complex operations smoothly. One needs to embrace the concept of Help, Help & Help. With the motto of selflessly helping everyone around would inculcate positive energy around you.

The journey from a surgeon to an administrator is a significant transformation. As an administrator, one must shift focus from individual patient care to the collective well-being of an institution and its stakeholders. The motto changes from "I will do it" to "we will do it," as collaboration and delegation become paramount.

In an administrative role, the surgeon-turned-leader must put in a great effort, work with concentration, and take responsibility for the success of the institution. The ability to listen and learn from teachers and colleagues becomes vital in shaping effective policies and strategies.

The Role of a University Vice Chancellor: Planning for the Future

Taking up the position of Vice Chancellor brings new responsibilities and challenges. It is a role that requires envisioning the future, planning for coming generations, and ensuring the institution's growth and development. Time is money, and every decision made has a lasting impact on the university and its students.

As a teacher, the Vice Chancellor must embody the best qualities of an educator. Being friendly and maintaining a vibrant social life within the department fosters a positive academic environment. Organizing picnics, outings, and get-togethers with students and colleagues helps create a sense of camaraderie and strengthens relationships.

Background

Hailing from rural background, being a son of an Elementary school teacher, studied in social welfare and ZP High school and entered the most prestigious Medical college, Andhra Medical College.

Serving the poorest of the poor, working in GGH and conducting regular Medical Camps in and around native village, giving back to the society with social responsibility.

Learnt and practicing an ethical way of life and the philosophy of 'not to think of bad, only think and do meritorious deeds' for the society.

Continuing the Learning Process: Embracing Failure and Improvement

In both surgery and academia, the pursuit of knowledge and continuous learning is essential. Surgeons learn from their experiences, embracing failures, and striving to improve every day. Similarly, as a Vice Chancellor, there is a constant need to adapt, learn, and grow to meet the challenges faced by the institution.

Conclusion: A Journey of Dedication and Connection

The life of a surgeon-turned-administrator offers a unique perspective on the convergence of two demanding fields. The journey from the operating room to the Vice Chancellor's desk requires unwavering dedication, the ability to make tough decisions, and a commitment to continuous improvement.

By embracing the art of hearing, acknowledging our failures, and learning from our teachers, we can lead with integrity and foster an environment of excellence and growth. As we navigate the complexities of surgery and academia, let us not forget the sacrifices made by our parents and the importance of human connections in shaping a fulfilling and purposeful life.

In the end, no matter how big or influential we become, it is important to remember that time moves forward, and we may be forgotten tomorrow. Hence we must make the most of today while planning for a better tomorrow.