

## **Away-Rotation Elective**

### **Should I select a rotation away from my institution? (Louis Binder, MD)**

The worst reason to do a rotation away is "Because I was told by the residency director/faculty at another program that I would not have a realistic chance to be selected unless I spent a month on site at their institution". Selection to a specific residency rarely correlates to completion of a "command performance" requirement, and if duplicative, affords no educational value to the student.

### **What are good rationales to do a rotation away? (Louis Binder, MD)**

If one particular residency stands out as an especially exciting possibility as a residency choice (due to geographic location, special expertise or emphasis, or reputation within the field), doing a rotation on site makes sense, due to mutual benefit. Not only does the program evaluate you - you also evaluate the program, there is something in it for you.

To experience a unique or "world class" rotation in an area of interest. For example, if your interest is pre-hospital care or toxicology, an EMS or toxicology rotation at an institution with a fellowship program or with an excellent or unique set up in these fields might be desirable for future career development whether or not you ultimately match to that particular program. If your interest is trauma, taking a trauma rotation at an institution with an acclaimed or unique trauma experience is something you will always remember and benefit from regardless of your future directions.