

Having worked at Target in previous summers of high school, I was excited to see what opportunities there might be in a more applicable field. During my freshman year of college, I called over 12 practices in Colorado to find a location that was looking for a medical scribe. Through that resilience, I was able to locate a practice interested in having a scribe with Foot and Ankle Clinic of the Rockies. In a smaller clinic setting, I worked to support three podiatrists, Dr. Weber, Dr. Jaakola, and Dr. Jovic. Multiple challenges came with this new opportunity. I had to learn the terminology of podiatry after finishing my introductory biology course and with minimal training from an online ScribeAmerica course. Additionally, the clinic did not have its own traditions for the role or training set in place as they had never had a set position of medical scribe. As such, I had to work to train myself in a sense, working on clinical terminology and the electronic medical record at home while focusing on observation while at work. I am proud so say that I adjusted well while also incorporating the different recording styles of the three doctors. Indeed, I went on to determine further challenges for myself once I was comfortable, working on templates to make scribing easier for myself, future scribes, as well as the doctors. In reward for my efforts, I was gifted with the chance to see contextual medicine at work. Working with patients who often scheduled follow ups as well as many Medicare patients, I was able to see how the doctors navigated the lived experience of each patient in determining a realistic treatment plan for them. Instead of defaulting to the general treatment for any given ailment, they worked with patients to craft an agreement that the patients could actually adhere to with at least moderate improvement. I would love to incorporate a similar approach to my future practice one day as I look at how to serve my patients with frank conversations and context-based medicine.