

Background

1. When was your medical license issued?
()(year)
2. What is your current age group?
 - a. <31 years old
 - b. 31-35 years old
 - c. 36-40 years old
 - d. >40 years old
3. Which year did you apply for the Board-Certified Surgeon?
 - a. 2021
 - b. 2022
4. Gender
 - a. Male
 - b. Female
 - c. Other
 - d. Prefer not to say
5. Marital status
 - a. Married or in a domestic partnership
 - b. Single or no partner
 - c. Prefer not to say
6. Do you have children?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to say
7. Which of the following is your spouse's or your partner's work schedule?
 - a. Full-time
 - b. Part-time
 - c. Unemployed
 - d. Prefer not to say
 - e. Other _____
8. What is the size of your hometown?
 - a. Major city (1 million people or more)
 - b. Regional city (over 50,000 people)
 - c. Underpopulated area (under 50,000 people)
 - d. Other _____
9. In which area did you receive most of your surgical training?
 - a. Major city (1 million people or more)
 - b. Regional city (over 50,000 people)

- c. Underpopulated area (under 50,000 people)
- d. Other _____

10. Were you affiliated with a university during your training?

- a. Yes
- b. No

11. Please select the amount of practice time for each facility size. Please answer a to c, with i - vi.

- a. University hospital
- b. Tertiary emergency medical institutions other than university hospitals
- c. Secondary or lower emergency medical institutions other than university hospitals

- i. None
- ii. <7 months
- iii. 7 months - 1 year
- iv. 1 year 1 month - 2 years
- v. 2 years 1 month - 3 years
- vi. >3 years

12. How many surgeries did you perform under general anesthesia during your training?

- a. <101
- b. 101-200
- c. 201-300
- d. 301-400
- e. 401-500
- f. >500

13. Which subspecialty are you primarily pursuing?

- a. Gastrointestinal surgery
- b. Respiratory surgery
- c. Cardiovascular surgery
- d. Pediatric surgery
- e. Breast surgery
- f. Endocrine surgery
- g. Emergency surgery (Acute care surgery)
- h. Not obtaining any subspecialty
- i. Undecided
- j. Other _____

Motivation and Timing for Choosing Surgery

14. When did you decide to become a surgeon?

- a. Before entering medical school
- b. After entering medical school but before clinical training
- c. During clinical training in medical school

- d. After clinical training in medical school
- e. During the first year of initial clinical residency
- f. During the second year of initial clinical residency
- g. After the initial clinical residency
- h. Other _____

15. How did the following factors influence your decision to become a surgeon? Please answer a to i, with A, B, or C.

- a. Image of surgeons (from dramas, comics, celebrities, acquaintances, internships, etc.)
- b. Surgical procedures and techniques
- c. Educational system, Process until independence
- d. Salary
- e. Quality of Life (QOL), Work-life balance
- f. Career path of a surgeon
- g. Recruitment from surgeons
- h. Family or relatives
- i. Other _____

- A) Positive influence / Reason for choosing surgery
- B) Neutral
- C) Negative influence / Reason for hesitating to choose surgery

Regarding the Training Program

16. What was the most influential factor in choosing the training program facility?

- a. Positive atmosphere of the department
- b. Number of surgeries performed
- c. Variety of surgical cases
- d. Comprehensive educational system
- e. Income
- f. Quality of Life (QOL), Work-life balance
- g. Reputation of the facility
- h. Recommendation from surgeons
- i. Recommendation from family/relatives
- j. Location/region of the training facility
- k. Alma mater
- l. Regional quota admission, scholarship quota, Academic loan program (Jichi Medical University, National Defense Medical college, University of Occupational and Environmental Health, etc.)
- m. Other _____

17. How many papers have you written as the lead author? (Regardless of the type of manuscript)

- a. 0
- b. 1
- c. 2

- d. 3
- e. 4
- f. >5

18. What do you think you are lacking to write a paper?

- a. Medical knowledge
- b. Practical knowledge of research (how to write and submit papers)
- c. Data, cases
- d. Mentor
- e. Time
- f. Colleagues to co-write the paper
- g. Motivation, Interest
- h. Nothing
- i. Other _____

19. How useful are the following materials for daily clinical practice and research? Please answer a to h, with 1 - 5.

- a. Overview and treatment videos distributed by the Japan Surgical Society
- b. Surgery DVDs provided by the Japan Surgical Society
- c. Trauma workshop videos distributed by the Japan Surgical Society
- d. Clinical research videos distributed by the Japan Surgical Society
- e. Overview and treatment videos distributed by organizations other than the Japan Surgical Society (other societies, companies, publishers, SNS etc)
- f. Surgery videos distributed by organizations other than the Japan Surgical Society
- g. Japanese Advanced Trauma Evaluation and Care (JATEC) Course
- h. Clinical research videos distributed by organizations other than the Japan Surgical Society

- 1. Very useful
- 2. Useful
- 3. Not useful
- 4. Not useful at all
- 5. I have not taken it, so I cannot evaluate

20. Please evaluate the clinical skills (surgery, diagnosis) of the main attending surgeons you met during training.

- a. Extremely high
- b. High
- c. Not very high
- d. Low

21. Please evaluate the education skills (surgery, diagnosis) of the main attending surgeons you met during training.

- a. Extremely high
- b. High
- c. Not very high
- d. Low

22. During your training, did you receive training in surgical techniques outside the operating room? (Dry lab, Wet lab, Animal lab, Cadaver, etc.)

- a. Received regularly
- b. Received irregularly
- c. Had a chance, but did not
- d. Did not have any chance
- e. Don't know/Not sure

23. During your training, did you receive training in non-technical surgical skills? (Coaching, Team STEPPS, Team training, etc.)

- a. Received regularly
- b. Received irregularly
- c. Had a chance, but did not
- d. Did not have any chance
- e. Don't know/Not sure

24. What do you think are the problems with the Japan Surgical Society's Surgical Training Program? (Multiple answers allowed)

- a. The content of the program is not understood by trainees
- b. The experience in daily surgical clinical practice does not match the program's goals.
- c. Not receiving appropriate feedback from attending surgeons
- d. Achievement of goals are not evaluated
- e. The training satisfaction of the facility is not evaluated
- f. I don't think there are any particular problems
- g. Other _____

25. In the minimum limit number of experience cases designated for each area of the Surgical Training Program, which area was most difficult to experience?

- a. Gastrointestinal and Abdominal Organs (50 cases)
- b. Breast (10 cases)
- c. Respiratory System (10 cases)
- d. Heart and Great Vessels (10 cases)
- e. Peripheral Vessels (10 cases)
- f. Head and Neck, Dermatology, Endocrine Surgery (10 cases)
- g. Pediatric Surgery (10 cases)
- h. Trauma (10 points)
- i. Endoscopic Surgery (10 cases)
- j. I was able to experience all areas without any difficulty
- k. I don't know

26. Have you ever been harassed by the attending surgeons? (Power harassment, Moral harassment, Sexual harassment, Academic harassment, Alcohol harassment, etc.)

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Prefer not to say

27. Where do you work after completing your surgical training?

- a. Same as the training facility
- b. I have left the area/facility of training for now, but planning to return soon
- c. I have left the area/facility of training and would like to return someday
- d. I have left the area/facility of training and have no plans to return
- e. Other _____

28. What was the highest priority when deciding your initial post-training facility or affiliation (including university medical departments)?

- a. Number of surgeries performed
- b. Variety of surgical cases
- c. Comprehensive educational system
- d. Income
- e. QOL, Work-life balance
- f. Location/region of the facility
- g. Family circumstances
- h. Alma mater
- i. Regional quota admission, scholarship quota, Academic loan program (Jichi Medical University, National Defense Medical Colleges, University of Occupational and Environmental Health, etc.)
- j. Currently not affiliated or working
- k. Other _____

29. Are you satisfied with the surgical training you received?

- a. Very satisfied
- b. Somewhat satisfied
- c. Somewhat dissatisfied
- d. Very dissatisfied

Regional Disparity

30. What are your impressions of providing surgical care in regional hospitals?

- a. I have a good impression.
- b. I don't have a good impression.

31. Please select one positive impression you have of surgical treatment at regional hospitals.

- a. Number of surgeries performed
- b. Variety of surgical cases
- c. Comprehensive educational system
- d. Impact on achievements and career
- e. Interpersonal relationships (Patients, Colleagues, Family, Residents, etc.)
- f. Workplace environment excluding relationships (Location, Hospital size, Facilities)
- g. Income
- h. QOL, Work-life balance

- i. Nothing
- j. Other _____

32. Please select one negative impression you have of surgical treatment at regional hospitals.

- a. Number of surgeries performed
- b. Variety of surgical cases
- c. Comprehensive educational system
- d. Impact on achievements and career
- e. Interpersonal relationships (Patients, Colleagues, Family, Residents, etc.)
- f. Workplace environment excluding relationships (Location, Hospital size, Facilities)
- g. Income
- h. QOL, Work-life balance
- i. Nothing
- j. Other _____

33. What information or conditions would make you consider working as a surgeon in the countryside? - Free response (_____)

Working Environment of Surgeons

34. What was the average number of overnight shifts per month during your training? (Including external assignments and part-time work.)
() shifts

35. During your training, what was the average monthly amount of overtime work? (Exceeding 40 hours a week, Including on-calls and external assignments)

- a. <41 hours (within 10 hours per week)
- b. 41-80 hours (10-20 hours per week)
- c. 81-120 hours (20-30 hours per week)
- d. 121-160 hours (30-40 hours per week)
- e. >160 hours (over 40 hours per week)

36. Was your working time managed during your training?

- a. Strictly managed (using time cards or similar methods)
- b. Generally managed
- c. Not managed
- d. I don't know

37. What was your annual income from the primary facility in the final year of your training?
() x 1 million yen

38. In which of the following tasks were you paid for overtime payment during your training? (Multiple choices allowed)

- a. Clinical work and surgery

- b. Tasks related to surgery (Specimen preparation, ork outside operations)
- c. Participation in conferences
- d. Tasks related to medical records (Preparation for outpatient visits, Conference preparation, Surgical records, etc)
- e. Academic activities (Presenting at conferences, creating slides, Writing papers, etc)
- f. There was no paying for overtime work
- g. I am unsure about which activities were considered as overtime work
- h. Other: _____

39. Have you ever considered quitting the training program?

- a. I have never thought about it.
- b. I have thought about it a little.
- c. I have seriously thought about it.
- d. I prefer not to answer.

40. (Please answer only if you chose b or c in the previous question.)

Why did you consider quitting?

- a. The actual experience was different from what I imagined.
- b. Couldn't master surgical techniques, Unspecified complications occurred.
- c. I was not able to receive sufficient education as a surgeon.
- d. Income was different from what I respected.
- e. Low quality of life, Poor work-life balance.
- f. I felt uncertain about my career.
- g. Poor relationships with others (Bullying, Harassments, etc.).
- h. I found a more attractive medical specialty or a job.
- i. Family circumstances.
- j. Health problems (Physical, Mental health).
- k. Other: _____

41. (Please answer only if you chose b or c in the previous question.)

What specific career changes did you consider?

Free response: ()

Other

42. If you have any opinions regarding your training or training program, please feel free to write them down.

Free response: ()

43. Lastly, if you have any opinions about the survey, please feel free to write them down.

Free response: ()