

How Good Are Foreign-Trained Doctors?

Published on Surgical Products (<http://www.surgicalproductsmag.com>)

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One night during my training, over dinner in the hospital cafeteria, a fellow resident and I had a discussion about the situation of one of our professors. Known for his blistering teaching sessions, this senior surgeon possessed the uncanny ability to sniff out lapses in memory or judgment among doctors-in-training. Early on in my internship, I showed up at one of his practice trauma resuscitations blissfully unprepared. I left an hour later with his booming and rapid-fire admonitions still ringing in my ears. "You call yourself a doctor?" he had thundered. "This patient may just be a dummy, but you are killing her!"

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