

Re: I can now add TV star to my resume

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"Worry about us being seen as the safety net, though."

I understand, it's one of those nagging issues that can stir up quite a debate among MTs. My point of view is that it is our critical-thinking skills that make us worth what we make. I personally believe it is precisely because we have not publicized that aspect of what we do that our contributions in that area are totally ignored and disregarded when the numbers are being crunched. As long as we are seen as "just typists" who simply "type what we hear" we can expect to continue to be marginalized and viewed as a liability and excess expense. I totally understand the concern about being held accountable for something that isn't our responsibility, and I totally believe the dictator is ultimately responsible for the content of his/her documentation. But I also feel a keen responsibility both as a trained professional and as someone who cares about the integrity of others' medical records to exercise my intelligence and perform quality control/risk management as part of my job. I personally don't believe the two points of view are mutually exclusive, i.e., that the dictator is ultimately responsible for the end result but I'm also responsible for protecting the integrity of the record TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE. Obviously MTs cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of the UNDERLYING DATA, but I personally believe we can and should take responsibility for ensuring that "right" doesn't get changed to "left" or that Synthroid 0.1 mg doesn't become 10 mg. To me, that is why I'm worth \$30-\$40 an hour rather than \$15.

Jay

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