

3 Myths About Locum Tenens Debunked – 10/7/2011



October 7, 2011 -- By 2015, there will be a physician shortage of roughly 63,000 doctors, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges. With these shortages, more and more medical facilities are turning to locum tenens to fulfill their needs in the short term. There are a lot of myths floating around about what locum tenens, or physicians who travel and take job assignments of varying length, actually do.

Some of those misconceptions can cost a healthcare facility big bucks as locum tenens can be hugely helpful in saving time, money and resources. With that in mind, Michael DePaolis, Vice President, [Weatherby Healthcare](#), has collected some of the more widely held misconceptions about the industry, along with realities on how they can be instrumental in a medical facility by helping alleviate staffing shortages and increasing overall efficiency and revenue:

MYTH 1

Being treated by a locum tenens physician is a different experience than being treated by a physician who is permanently placed at a medical facility.

REALITY: Locum physicians are held to the same high standards as staff physicians, and must have the same or even higher credentials or experience. Healthcare staffing companies credential locum tenens just as thoroughly and rigorously as medical facilities interview physicians seeking permanent placement.

MYTH 2

Locum tenens are expensive.

REALITY: Locum tenens are a cost effective tool to augment and assist facilities in recruitment and retention plans. In terms of revenue, locum tenens physicians typically generate revenue in excess of their cost.

MYTH 3

The process of finding a locum is labor intensive and time consuming.

REALITY: Most locum tenens work with healthcare staffing companies who do the work

for both the facility and the physician to ensure the perfect match. Healthcare staffing companies fully screen all physicians well as assist the facility in their credentialing process leaving little-to-no work for the physician or the facility. When considering locum tenens as a staffing solution, working with a larger company can offer additional resources and support to help accomplish revenue goals.

Staffing is important to the overall success of a facility. By understanding the facts, facilities can utilize locum tenens as a solution to many staffing issues the healthcare industry faces now and in the future.

Michael DePaolis, Vice President of Weatherby Healthcare

About Michael DePaolis – As Vice President of a leading healthcare staffing company with over 20 years in the staffing industry he knows the importance of providing superior patient care by ensuring the right match between the physician and facility.

About Weatherby Healthcare -Established in 1995, Weatherby Healthcare has become the premier physician staffing company in the U.S. From our headquarters in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, we match the right physicians with the right healthcare facilities throughout the entire nation.