Perspective: Physician Advocacy: What Is It and How Do We Do It?
Mark A. Earnest, MD, PhD, Shale L. Wong, MD, MSPH, and Steven G. Federico, MD

1. A) How do the authors define advocacy?
1. B) How would you define advocacy?

2. What do you think are the most important barriers to physicians acting as advocates?

3. The article gives examples of several physician advocates. Who is a physician advocate that you have worked with and what is his/her story?

4. What is a problem in your community amenable to advocacy and what would your strategic action plan be to tackle it?

Public Roles of US Physicians: Community Participation, Political Involvement, and Collective Advocacy
Russell L. Gruen, MBBS, PhD, Eric G. Campbell, PhD, David Blumenthal, MD, MPP

1. The article states that the results suggest “that civic mindedness is heavily influenced by physicians’ personal characteristics, and perhaps less by professional and practice attributes”.
   a. Why do they say this?
   b. Do you think this is true?
   c. What role if any does training have in promoting advocacy?

2. How do you think ob/gyn’s would have compared if they were surveyed?
Is there an advocate in the house? The role of health care professionals in patient advocacy.
L. Schwartz MD

1) What are some of the various types of advocacy?
   a. individual patient advocacy
   b. group patient advocacy
   c. community advocacy
   d. political advocacy

2) Do you think patients need advocates?
   a. Why might this be?
   b. Do you have any personal experiences of situations where a patient needed an advocate?

3) What role do residents have in advocacy?
   a. What puts a resident in a good position to be a patient advocate?
   b. What puts a resident in a bad position to be a patient advocate?
   c. Do you think residents have an obligation to be a patient advocate? Why or why not?

3 is a Crowd: The New Doctor–Patient–Policymaker Relationship
Erin E. Tracy, MD, MPH

1) What role, if any, do you think government has in regulating medical care?

2) This article gives several examples of legislators in the exam room. Can you think of any other examples?

3) How have these laws affected your ability to practice medicine?

4) Describe what you think the doctor-patient relationship is.