

Future Star Jacqueline Prevetete, DPM

This sports medicine podiatrist is also
a sub-3 hour marathoner.

BY MARC HASPEL, DPM



Running and podiatric medicine is a natural fit. Podiatric physicians understand running in terms of biomechanics, pathologies, and appropriate treatments. When these same doctors are runners themselves, their knowledge and experiences are even more magnified. This is certainly the case of Jacqueline Prevetete, DPM, the next Future Star in Podiatry by *Podiatry Management*

your career? To whom else do you give thanks?

Prevete: I would have to say that the person who influenced me most in the profession is my residency director, Dr. Charles Lombardi. He has not only been influential in my residency and surgical training, but also has a great passion for this profession that he imparted upon me. I am also thankful for my parents, and family

When I was hindered by an injury at any point during my athletic career, it affected me on both on a physical and emotional level. In selecting a field of medicine, I considered a few different options, but ultimately found podiatry after having it suggested to me by my pre-medical advisor in college. My background as an avid runner continues to give me a unique perspective when treating patients.

PM: *What are your goals both short-term and long-term for your career in podiatric medicine?*

Prevete: My short-term goal is most definitely to continue growth within Foot & Ankle Surgeons of New York. This was my first job out of residency in 2017. Since then, I have become a partner, and helped grow the practice from three to seven office locations in a matter of a few years. I would like to continue this upwards trajectory of the company for as long as we can. My long-term goals are multiple: to continue advancing the profession through NYSPPMA and APMA, and to also continue involvement in residency education.

I currently serve on the Board of Trustees for the New York State Podiatric Medical Association. I am proud to represent this profession from an

Continued on page 126

An active lifestyle has always been part of who I am, and this, in turn, influenced me to choose this profession.

Magazine. An accomplished marathoner who continues to participate as a sub sub-three hour runner in the annual New York City Marathon, Dr. Prevetete has embarked on an impressive career in podiatric medicine and surgery. In addition, she has emerged as a leader in the profession as a Board of Trustee member of the New York Podiatric Medical Association.

Dr. Prevetete recently shared her perspective on her young career, her continued interest in sports medicine, and her plans for the future.

PM: *Who in podiatric medicine influenced you the most thus far in*

who have been supportive throughout my career, and who have taught me to never settle.

PM: *What first attracted you to a career in podiatric medicine?*

Prevete: I have been a competitive runner since high school, and, also, ran track and cross country at the Division I level at Fordham University in the Bronx, New York. Since then, I have continued to run, participating in five New York City Marathons. An active lifestyle has always been part of who I am, and this, in turn, influenced me to choose this profession.

Dr. Prevette (from page 125)

advocacy standpoint. I would like to work my way up to NYSPMA President one day, with further involvement in APMA at the national level going forward. Regarding residency education, I currently work with multiple residency programs, and would love to become a residency director or assistant director in the future.

PM: *What College of Podiatric Medicine did you attend? Where, and how would you describe your post-graduate training?*

Prevette: I attended the New York College of Podiatric Medicine and graduated in 2013. My residency training was at New York Presbyterian Queens in Flushing, New York. My residency program was a four year program at a level one trauma center with a high surgical volume. Those four years not

sion from an advocacy standpoint. Because of APMA's efforts, podiatric medicine has evolved significantly since its advent. Regarding certifying boards (ABFAS, ABPM) and other organizations, these organizations are equally as important in order to have all facets of this profession represented, and also act to hold their candidates to a certain acceptable standard to achieve board certification status. I think each of these organizations needs to focus on what they stand for. If this is done, it will inevitably help to unify the profession. I also feel that many podiatrists are disconnected from the dynamics of our profession. APMA and its state chapters are doing a lot of work that goes unnoticed, simply because of lack of awareness. Practicing in New York State is a different battle that I chose to fight by staying here; podiatrists here are

Prevette: The sub-specialties in podiatry that interest me the most are sports medicine and surgery. Being an athlete and competing at a high level for many years of my life has enabled me to have a different level of empathy for patients that demand a lot from their bodies. Treating athletes is something I love doing because of the challenge to get them back to their baseline level of activity, which is inevitably at a higher-than-normal level. Regarding the surgical aspect of podiatry, this is something I have always loved as it requires execution of a plan, and quick decision-making when things veer from what is expected, especially in more challenging cases.

PM: *What type of practice arrangement, i.e., solo, small, or large group, suits you the best?*

Prevette: I am currently a partner at a podiatric practice with nine other doctors aside from myself. I feel as though this is a great fit for me because it allows for a great balance of both professional and personal growth. My co-workers and I constantly share ideas about patient care, treatment plans, and interesting cases to foster an environment where we all learn from each other.

PM: *Where do you see your career being in 10 years, 20 years?*

Prevette: In 10 years, I hope to be continuing to advance and grow FAASNY as a managing partner. I am excited to see the options for our practice, especially given the changing structure of medicine. I also hope to work my way up on the NYSPMA Board of Trustees and one day become NYSPMA President. In 20 years, I would like to escalate my involvement at the national level for APMA and maintain a teaching position at a residency program.

PM: *What are your thoughts on the overall role of podiatric medicine in the current healthcare system?*

Prevette: Podiatric medicine is not only imperative in preventative care,

Continued on page 127

Surgical organizations and board certifying organizations are imperative, but I believe our state and national political organizations that advocate on our behalf are the only way we gain any ground to advance this profession.

only taught me surgical skills, but how to become efficient and productive in high stress situations. It was based on a "see one, do one, teach one" mindset, where the best validation of knowing how to do something fully is being able to teach someone else how to perform the task. I had a very positive residency experience where I was encouraged to take responsibility for each patient I saw. Many of the people who trained me during my residency are either my business partners or closest colleagues today.

PM: *What are your thoughts about APMA, the certifying boards, and other organizations that function within the profession?*

Prevette: APMA continues to exceptionally promote this profes-

sion constantly facing issues involving a limited scope of practice. This affects the younger people in this profession directly, which affects the future of the profession.

Surgical organizations and board certifying organizations are imperative, but I believe our state and national political organizations that advocate on our behalf are the only way we gain any ground to advance this profession. This is something everyone in practice, especially the younger practitioners, must understand. Naturally, this is the one thing about which I want to create awareness going forward in my involvement with NYSPMA and APMA.

PM: *What sub-specialties interest you in podiatric medicine, and why?*

Dr. Prevete (from page 126)

but also instrumental in keeping people active and allowing them to lead healthy lifestyles. It is key in preventative medicine to address obesity and diabetes, especially in a country where these conditions are so prevalent. This is a profession that has the ability to reduce healthcare costs and treat all facets of foot and ankle disease. Podiatrists are truly the primary caretakers of the lower extremity, and patients likely see their podiatrists more often than they see their internists in many cases.

PM: *What should this profession do to continue to attract sound quality individuals like yourself?*

Prevete: Recruitment for this profession is of utmost importance. There are already many mentorship opportunities that have been put into motion at both the state and nation-

al level, of which everyone should take advantage. I think the most important thing we can do for the profession is to create public awareness of what our training allows us to accomplish and how much of an impact this makes from a patient care perspective. In my opinion, this profession should be the first choice of more prospective students than it currently is. I think this disconnect is due to the lack of public awareness of our role in the healthcare system.

PM: *Would you be in favor of degree change as well as name change from the term "podiatric" to "foot and ankle" medicine?*

Prevete: I would be against such a change. I think we need to remain comfortable in our identity as podiatric physicians. Our degree is a specialty as is, and those that choose this profession are trained to be experts of the foot and ankle. I don't

think changing our degree will give us any advantage. Rather, we need to work on creating awareness of who we are and what we do as physicians of the foot and ankle.

PM: *As a younger practitioner, how are you managing a busy work-life balance?*

Prevete: While my career will always be a priority, I trust my own ability to balance both with support from those who are close to me, while making some sacrifices along the way. **PM**



Dr. Haspel is senior editor of this magazine and past-president of the New Jersey Podiatric Medical Society. He is a member of the American Academy of Podiatric Practice Management.