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First off, talk a little bit about how you got into medicine, how you got into pediatrics, and how you got into pediatric emergency medicine?

Dr. Romashko: Medicine was always an easy thing for me; I always was interested in the sciences, and I actually applied out of high school for a program that was kind of a target med program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison so I was one of those weird people who knew what I wanted to do long before I wanted to do it. And I've always loved children and was a nanny in high school and enjoy the company of children, so pediatrics was a pretty easy pick for me as well. And then I actually kind of stumbled into Pediatric Urgent Care. I actually worked as a Primary Care Pediatrician for a few years and then when I moved back up to my home state with my husband, I had been working pretty long hours at my primary care practice and didn't know how to find a balance for my life. I always considered doing an ED fellowship but I didn't want to go back to school necessarily, or back for that extended training. So I tried out Urgent Care and it was a part-time gig for me at first, to quote, "keep my foot in the door" and then my foot got firmly planted. I loved it and I love the people I work with. And then as time went on and they needed a leader I ended up becoming the medical director about six years ago for my group and the things we've been able to accomplish have been just amazing in such a short amount of time and it's such an exciting field -- not just clinically and when you're with the patients and the families, but also just what we're doing in urgent care as far as serving patients' needs and keeping them out of the ER.

Now, Urgent Care, not only in Wisconsin, but around the country, has made great growth strides in the time you've been in it.

Dr. Romasho: Absolutely. We've felt it ourselves. We went from being kind of single-staffed at these sites that our own organization didn't even know we existed, to now growing: we went from 14 physicians to 53 in six years and went

from three sites to six, going on seven, probably going on eight in the next year. And our numbers, our volume, has certainly skyrocketed as well. And it's been a really great way for us to serve the community and really partner with a primary care pediatricians in our community to make sure the kids are getting excellent evidence-based after hours care.

As you look at SPUC and at the board, what are some of the kinds of things you appreciate what are some of the kinds of things you'd like to do or to see done?

Dr. Romashko: Yeah, I was so excited when I first heard about there actually being "a thing," for a Society for Pediatric Urgent Care, because I had fallen in love with it myself at that point and had become the medical director. I didn't really feel there was anything else like us and so when I was able to come to my first conference and see how many exciting things were going on across the country in regards to formulating benchmarks and doing quality work and just troubleshooting, you know, among among each other. It was such an exciting thing and I loved the idea of just carrying this field forward and finding new and innovative ways to deliver care, dipping into more of a tele-med thing with our Urgent Cares as well, as we head in that direction. And also just in general, finding better ways to provide better quality care for kids after hours and really connect back to the medical home. So, it's so exciting so I just it's so exciting to find like-minded people who are also excited and interested in education and growth. The career growth -- this was not a career twenty years ago for people; people kind of did Urgent Care if they didn't have anything else to do. And now it's such an exciting field that you can have the benefits of academic-type medicine and the fast pace of the Urgent Care and still have all the fun of being in Pediatrics. And so, yeah, it's just a really exciting, exciting time, I think.

Do you have any special kinds of projects that you'd want to be working on?

Dr. Romashko: Tele-med is something that we're really starting to dip into now and we have a lot of support from our system, which is exciting but also terrifying, because they're just kind of saying "What do you want to do?" So yeah, it's exciting to think about what we can do and how we can best serve our patients' needs in that manner. I know as a parent myself, I know how convenient it

would be to do certain things as a tele-med visitor, a video visit instead of actually having to go in. I've got kids with behavioral issues that, you know, could benefit from that and just even to some of the very basic Urgent Care could be handled from home and keep kids in bed where they're comfortable. So, I'm really excited about that, coming up with ways to make that work in clinic. And that also then will help with the efficiencies in our clinic so we're not seeing kids that can be seen over the phone and we can make room and make time for the kids you really do need in-person care and be able to triage a lot a lot better. So, I think that I'm really excited about that as a project. But education in general has always been really important to me. And just the fact that we're collaborating, that we're part of the OUCH stuff, the data collection, and kind of developing these benchmarks and I'd love to see more kind of joint ventures as far as noon conferences with other Urgent Cares, and kind of develop that a little bit more, so that we can all communicate better and learn from one another. I think that would be really exciting as well.