Elliott R. Row, MD Dallas, TX 2018 OTA Young Practitioners Forum

## Good Habits in the First Year

- Beginning of a new chapter: "Starting out on the right foot"
  - o Adapting to new roles as a care provider, educator, leader and primary surgeon
  - Balancing humility with confidence
  - Continuing the same work ethic that got you here
  - Surviving days of being overwhelmed and feeling inadequate
- Patient care- what patients care about
  - Communication: "A picture is worth a thousand words"
  - o Involving patients and family in decision making process
  - Setting expectations from the beginning
  - o Bedside manner tips: developing rapport and winning over trust
- Getting on track in the operating room
  - Check lists will save you frustration
  - o Making your own preferences using a spreadsheet
  - Treating others how you want to be treated
  - How to maintain composure in difficult situations
  - Pre-op planning is still just as important
- Practice guidelines
  - o Stay in the habit of saying yes
  - Volunteer to help consistently
  - Documentation habits
  - o Becoming more efficient
  - Challenges to anticipate in the office
- Working with residents: "Wasn't I just one?"
  - o Developing a consistent routine they can get familiar with
  - Setting expectations early on
  - Balance friendship with authority
  - Playing a role in academics
- Your education
  - o Continue involvement in courses- either attending or teaching
  - o Establishing a routine to continue reading and pre-op planning
  - o Accepting criticism and praise with humility and use it for improvement
- Boards
  - Maintaining a case log journal
  - Make note of complications as they come
  - o PROMIS surveys- how to approach asking patients to rate you
- Personal life
  - Continuing hobbies and friendships outside the hospital
  - Balance in life is hard to achieve, it'll never be perfect
  - Mental and physical health should always be a priority