

#### Case study #2: Weak MCAT

## Academics

- School: University of Toronto
- GPA: 3.60-3.79
- Program: Life sciences
- MCAT: taken twice, 6-7 (V), 11-12 (P), 11-12 (B), Q(W)

### Extracurriculars

- Strong background in research with presentations
- Hospital volunteering and shadowing
- President of student science club
- Intramural sports
- Office clerk part time job

#### Goals

- Medical school admission, never applied previously
- Graduate school admission for back up, never applied previously

#### Diagnosis

• Moderate GPA, low MCAT

## Plan

• Specifically target schools that do not emphasize the MCAT.

# Approach

- Student approached us in his final year 6 months before the application due date. We focused on applying to schools that did not have strict MCAT cutoffs in the geographic locations that the student is interested in.
- We also looked over the application profile and carefully considered the importance of each extracurricular activity. Based on this assessment, we selected specific influential referees who we anticipated would write strong reference letters.
- On receiving interview invites, we offered repeat mock interviews specifically tailored to the style of each school. This student was very anxious prior to interviews because the MCAT was an obvious weak aspect of the application but our interview preparation offered the student greater confidence.

#### Result

- Accepted to the University of Toronto medical school (first choice).
- Continues to be mentored by MD Consultants during medical school.