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Waiting was the worst part. I was starting to feel uneasy and fear filled my head. The pain took over my headspace and all I wanted was to feel better. Then the doctor came in and told me the bad news about my injury, but all I could do at the time was think about how horrible it must be to have to spend all day delivering bad news. At this moment, I thought I would never want to be a doctor but turns out this was just the beginning of my journey.

In my freshman year of high school, I injured myself playing the sport I love. My doctor told me there would be a chance that I may not be able to dance again. In my path to recovery, I saw many different types of medical workers, but specifically, my physical therapist helped me to learn and grow not only physically. In the eight months I spent with her by my side, she helped me to discover my love for both medicine and caring for others.

She had so many qualities that I had never even known were so important for healthcare workers. She was determined for me to fight. All she truly cared about was seeing her patients succeed and she worked hard to make it happen. She taught me how to achieve goals and helped wipe my tears along the way. She gave me the confidence I needed to get back up when I fell. Watching her in action made me realize, healthcare isn't all about giving bad news.

Healthcare workers are able to give new beginnings to patients who thought they had reached their end. They are able to make new life-changing discoveries. They are able to give love and support to people who truly need it. Although physical therapy is not my dream career, it was the career that helped me discover what my passion is.

Aside from my desire to care for others, I have a strong love for science. Having been enrolled in a wide variety of different science courses throughout my education, I have found different qualities in each realm of science that I am drawn to. Chemistry, on the other hand, I have found to be very attractive. As I am currently enrolled in my third type of chemistry class since the beginning of high school, and applying to colleges with a chemistry major in mind, I still find excitement and curiosity in every new concept I learn. I have found myself to be what many would consider a lifelong learner—I truly love to learn more about the world around us.

Healthcare is a large field, opening new opportunities to such a variety of career paths. With the combination of my want to help others and change lives and my love for chemistry and learning, I have found that it is my dream to become a medical researcher. It is my dream to make discoveries and dedicate my life to science in order to better the lives of others. Not only does medical research fulfill my desired characteristics for a job in healthcare, but it opens so many doors to different specialties or focal points in my career. This will allow me to even

further develop my passion and find my desired specialty and continue to carry the quality of a lifelong learner meaning, my journey is still just beginning.