

January 11, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of reference on behalf of Dr. Tushar Shah. I had an opportunity of working with Dr. Shah for approximately 18 months in Prestonsburg, Kentucky. Our cardiology practice was based at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Dr. Shah started the practice at this hospital on behalf of CardioSolution. This company provides management of cardiovascular service lines to regional and rural hospitals nationwide. It was the aim of the hospital administration to regain the loyalty of patients in the region who were seeking cardiovascular care at other hospitals. I had an opportunity of sharing office space and patient care with Dr. Shah. We provided the hospital with consultative cardiology services as well as diagnostic services including cardiac catheterization, transthoracic echocardiography, transesophageal echocardiography, nuclear stress testing, Holter monitors, and event recorders.

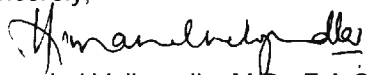
Dr. Shah is a very intelligent physician with a tremendous fund of knowledge. He takes thorough histories of his patients and is very methodical in his approach to patient care. His medical records are detailed and well maintained. He gives each patient his undivided attention and takes the time necessary to make patients comfortable. He gains the confidence and loyalty of his patients quickly. He genuinely cares about the well-being of each patient and cares for them as if they were part of his own family. His patients continue to remember the level of care that he provided them and continue to ask about him often.

Referring physicians found him to be very approachable and our practice grew very quickly. He is a strong practice builder and he has significantly changed local referral patterns. He discusses complex patients with his referring physicians to gain their input so that an individualized plan of care can be arrived at cooperatively. Several of the local physicians were his patients and they also brought their family members to him for evaluation. He is an excellent communicator and reviews the disease process, treatment options, and potential complications of care with each patient in detail. Our practice has grown from 5 patients total to: 30 clinic patient daily, at least 3-5 new outpatient consultations daily, 7 new inpatient consults daily, and a daily census of over 20 inpatients. Our cardiac catheterization numbers have grown exponentially and we are now anticipating certificate of need approval to begin an interventional cardiology program.

Dr. Shah is one of those rare physicians who I would choose for myself or my own family if a cardiologist was required. I was comfortable discussing complicated patients I had seen with him to gain his input and tap into his fund of knowledge. He listens patiently and offers advice respectfully. He is easy to work with and has gained the respect and admiration of our medical and nursing staff. He established the cardiology program at this small hospital and has made significant contributions to its development. He has spent a lot of time training support staff in new protocols and technologies. He is responsible for writing many of the protocols and guidelines in our hospital. He is instrumental in getting our echocardiography and nuclear labs credentialed.

Although I understand his desire to specialize in heart failure and transplantation, his move away from our hospital was a true loss to our program. I wish him all of the success and envy the program that is fortunate to gain him. I can be reached on my personal cell phone at 606-219-0828.

Sincerely,



Himachal Veligandla, M.D., F.A.C.C.