

NURSE'S POINT OF VIEW: WHAT IT MEANS TO WORK WITH DR. MARC LEVITT

Conversation with Chris Frake | Director of Perioperative Care

[Point of view, OR nurse, Chris Frake]

[Chris Frake, OR Nurse, CTO Nursing Director, Columbus, Ohio, USA]

[Chris:] My name is Chris Frake, registered nurse with CTO, and I take care of all the nursing-related issues with our trips. I've been working with Marc for, oh gosh, seven years now, eight years. He first came to Nationwide Children's when I was working there, and we very quickly formed a very nice working relationship.

[Marc:] How come you didn't smile?

[Chris:] The thing about Marc that is so remarkable is what a leader he is.

[Marc:] This is a beautiful case. You need seven centimeters.

[Chris:] He inspires people.

[Marc:] Let's go for it, let's try to get six done too on Monday.

[Chris:] He makes you be a better person; he makes you want to work harder. He sets very high expectations, and expects you to meet them. He doesn't micromanage, he gives you a job to do, and he walks away, and he lets you do it. And he trusts that you will do the very best that you can, and it makes you want to. I feel like I'm a better nurse for having met him and for working with him. He's just the best person ever. He's a good leader, a very caring individual. He will give you the shirt off his back. He's very loyal. And the missions that we go on have just been life-changing. To see what he does, how he changes patients' lives, it's inspirational. It's hard to explain if you don't understand the medical procedures and the medical aspect of it, but the children that he takes care of have suffered for so long, and he fixes them. And when people know that he's coming, they wait for him. We had a patient in Russia that heard that he was coming, and they were in Georgia actually, and without any appointment, any consultation, they jumped in their car and drove for 22 hours to get to him. And he saw them and "yeah, I'll fix you", and he did.