



MEG
FLEMING MD, MS_c

Quantum Radiology

📍 Atlanta, GA

🏥 5 Years in Practice

- 3 in Academics
- 2 in Private Practice

Practice/National Leadership Activities

- ACR Chair of Economics Committee for Breast Imaging
- Hospital Breast Cancer Committee
- Hospital Family Practice Teaching Committee
- ACR Moorfield Fellow

What is your favorite thing about private practice?

You can step in and step out of the practice as it fits you. You can delve deeper into the practice and join boards and committees depending on what factors in personal life allow it and dial it back as needed. I feel like I have the flexibility to join committees when I have more time available, instead of feeling like I needed to hit a career milestone by a certain time in academics. I also like using my general radiology skill set since I spent a lot of time in residency developing this skill.

Interesting Facts & Hobbies

- I like to travel with some adventure – I actually went skydiving 2 days before I took the MCAT. Now that I have a family with three young kids, I have toned it down to hiking and biking.
- I also had a first career as an investment banker! I worked in investment banking out of college and decided to switch into medicine while getting a master's degree at the London School of Economics.

Why did you decide to join private practice?

When I joined private practice, I was struggling in my work-life balance. I had worked in academic medicine for 3 years, and much of my free time was used performing research and teaching. Even though I enjoyed research and teaching, I felt that it was starting to eat into my personal time. I also worked from 8 AM – 5 PM in breast imaging and had no flexibility to take my children to school or to a doctor's appointment, so I wanted more flexibility during the week. Now, I can pick up nights and weekends in my practice so that I have more flexibility during school hours.

If you had to give one piece of advice to trainees considering private practice vs academics what would it be?

Not all academics and not all private practices are the same. It's hard to know what private practice is like since you only know academics out of residency. If you are interested in private practice, I would recommend learning about culture of that group and how they go about leadership, scheduling, etc, and how it affects the whole group. I would recommend talking to those in the practice – associates, partners, and board members to see what the culture is like and see if the group is willing to foster your interests. In my practice, I still had conferences to present at when I switched to private practice, and my practice honored those commitments. Find a group that fits with how you want your life and career to evolve.