Top 5 Medical Transcription Myths:
Don’t Turn Down the Career Till You Know the Facts!

Myth 1: Medical transcription is going the way of the dinosaurs. Doctors just do it themselves now.
Healthcare systems can’t afford to pay doctors to be their own medical secretaries, so many are switching to speech recognition technology. This software creates medical reports from the doctor’s dictation, but it cannot match the accuracy of a well-trained medical transcriptionist. There will always be a need for a medical transcriptionist to review and edit these software-generated reports.

Myth 2: All of the medical transcriptionists at our local hospital just got laid off. There are no jobs in my area for medical transcriptionists.
Most medical transcription work is handled by large medical transcription service organizations (MTSOs). These companies have employees nationwide that work remotely from their homes, which means well-trained medical transcriptionists can work from anywhere they have a secure internet connection.

Myth 3: You don’t need extra education to be a medical transcriptionist.
Not only do you need to be able to understand complicated medical terminology, you also need a basic understanding of anatomy, pharmacology, etc. as well as the ability to make out what mumbling, eating, and distracted doctors are saying. In order to be successful as a medical transcriptionist, you need specialized education, which typically takes about 6 to 12 months.

Myth 4: I want to work from home, but it’ll be years before that’s even a possibility.
Since most medical transcription work is handled through MTSOs, there are actually many more opportunities to work from home than there are to work on site. At Career Step, 90% of our Medical Transcription graduates who start working after graduation work from home in their very first position.

Myth 5: If I’m working at home, I need special software or equipment to be a medical transcriptionist.
This myth is a good way to spot a scam. If you’re researching a company that tells you that you need to purchase their equipment or software and then they’ll set you up with your very own, prosperous medical transcription business, RUN the other way!

Medical transcription is one of the most viable work-at-home careers out there, and it has a bright future. As long as you choose a school with a training program specifically designed to prepare you for the realities of the medical transcription workplace by offering employer-trusted training, you can be well on your way to a successful work-at-home medical transcription career.

What’s medical transcription?
Medical transcription is the process of transcribing the notes dictated by a healthcare provider after a patient interaction. Every patient interaction results in notes from the care provider, and all of these notes need to be transcribed before they can be added to the patient’s medical record.