

**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL MEDICINE PROGRAMS**

INTERNATIONAL CLINICAL ELECTIVES PROGRAM

Program Description

The Office of International Medicine Programs at The George Washington University Medical Center partners with institutions globally to provide opportunities for medical students from GW and abroad to experience a medical system other than their own. The International Clinical Electives Program is designed to provide students with an opportunity to enrich and diversify their medical education in a different physical and social setting.

Goals and Objectives

- To gain knowledge of the importance of diseases that are uncommon in a student's home country
- To observe and develop existing clinical skills
- To broaden public health knowledge
- To develop creativity in problem-solving
- To deepen commitment to providing high quality medical services
- To provide opportunities to explore alternate career possibilities
- To gain experience in aspects of medicine beyond the core curriculum
- To understand the relationship between medicine and society in another culture. This includes developing an understanding of medical ethics and law, the recognition of medical problems facing different groups within another society, the financing of medical care, and the role of government in healthcare outside of the student's home country

GWUMC Clinical Rotations

Clinical elective available for international students in the following areas, based upon availability:

- Anesthesiology
- Clinical Neuroscience
- Emergency Medicine
- Medicine and Subspecialties
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Pediatrics and Subspecialties
- Psychiatry
- Surgery and Surgical Specialties

Requirements

Each student will submit to their institution's administrative office:

1. Academic Transcripts
2. Curriculum Vitae/Resume
3. Completed and Signed Application Form, found under "Downloadable Applications and Brochures"
4. 2 Letters of Recommendation, signed and on letterhead
5. A Letter of Good Standing
6. A 1-page Personal Statement outlining student's goals and objectives

GW and the international institutions will determine eligibility and placement based upon students' credentials. The Office of International Medicine at GW will forward all eligible GW student applications to

the administrative office of the host institution for review. Students will receive notice from their home university as to their acceptance into the program.

Selection

Each university/institution will be responsible for selecting their respective candidates. Medical students must have completed the following basic clinical rotations: two months in internal medicine; two months in family practice; two months in pediatrics; two months in OB/GYN; two months in surgery; and two months in psychiatry. Students must be in excellent academic standing at their home institution. Students will be selected based on a range of factors, including but not limited to: career goals, previous experience, relevant skills (such as language skills) and academic qualifications.

Regulations and Standards

Students will be held to the highest standards of the host university and will be responsible for upholding all rules, including but not limited to: university publications on rights and responsibilities of students, academic integrity, and MD program honor codes and regulations.

Duration and Evaluation

The duration of the International Clinical Elective Program is four to eight weeks, acquiring three to six credit hours. Each student will be assigned a mentor or a preceptor at their host institution, who will assess the student's performance and give him/her a written report or certificate upon completion of the rotation.

Calendar

Each institution shall accommodate prospective exchange students for clerkships during any four to eight-week period between August and May. GWUMC prefers to host students during the months of August and September, but is willing to accommodate students during other times as well. **GW will not be able to host students during the month of July.*

Reciprocity & Number of Students

The exchange of students will be reciprocal and based on the mutual and specific educational needs and purposes of each institution. The number of students, not to exceed three per academic year at each of GWUMC's affiliates, will be determined in mutual consultation in a timely manner. The exchange will be based upon student interest; if fewer than three students express an interest in the exchange, the number of interested students will dictate the size of the program for that year. In the event that no students apply during a given year, the exchange will not take place for that academic year, but will resume the next year within the terms of this agreement.

Lingua Franca

English is the lingua franca of all institutions. Interested students must have a working knowledge of English in order to be eligible for participation in the exchange program.

Program Logistics

- A. Tuition, Fees, Living Expenses: The parties will not charge tuition and related fees to exchange students whom they host. Rather, students will pay tuition and fees to their home institution. All other expenses are the responsibility of the student. Students selected must demonstrate

that they have the necessary personal funds to meet their travel, living, and accommodation expenses.

- B. Housing: All institutions will assist students in locating suitable housing during rotations. These options include accommodations on campus or in local housing. In all cases, students are responsible for the expense of their room and board as well as the expense of traveling to and from the host country and host institution.
- C. Health Insurance & Immunization: Students must obtain comprehensive health insurance coverage and must show evidence of proper immunization before beginning international electives.
- D. Malpractice and Liability Insurance: Each host institution will assume responsibility for the actions of students enrolled under the exchange program that occur as a part of medical student coursework at the host institution during the exchange. Students will be expected to adhere to the malpractice and liability guidelines set by the host institution.
- E. Visa: Students are responsible for meeting all costs, deadlines, and other requirements associated with obtaining a visa to the host country. Each student must obtain his or her own visa.

GWUMC CURRENT EXCHANGE SITES

Global - Operation Smile

Operation Smile provides comprehensive surgical and medical treatment to children and adults with facial deformities at a number of international sites while building public and private partnerships that advocate for sustainable healthcare systems. Each mission is staffed with attending physicians, residents, medical students and other support personnel. Missions are approximately 1-2 weeks in duration.

Austria – Max Kade Fellowship Program, Vienna

This senior clinical elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience Austria's system of quality medical care in Vienna. Students will acquire specific knowledge along with a broader, global view of medicine. Students may select from an array of specialties. This elective is offered once a year from February to April. The Max Kade Foundation offers scholarships to qualified medical students, which covers Air Travel and lodging expenses for one-month. Each medical student will receive a moderate stipend prior to departing for Austria to help cover meals as well.

Austria - University of Graz, Graz

This clinical elective allows GWUMC 3rd and 4th year medical students gain a better understanding of the healthcare system in Austria. Students are able to select from an array of specialties at Graz and be a part of their growing medical system. Students will focus on biological, psychological and social aspects of research, study and medical care.

Brazil – Minas Gerais

This research elective allows medical and public health students to have a unique opportunity participating in patient-oriented research for hookworm vaccine clinical trial sites in the rural northeastern Minas Gerais State of Brazil. Students will gain a better understanding of tropical diseases and of the processes involved in conducting field-based epidemiological studies.

Costa Rica - Universidad Latina de Costa Rica, San Jose

This senior clinical elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the Costa Rican health care system through clinical rotations at Hospital Clinica Biblica and other institutions in and around the San Jose region. Students may select a clinical specialty or basic science. The student will gain knowledge of the diagnosis and treatment of diseases that are not well known in the United States but are common in this small nation, including Malaria, Dengue Fever and Leptospirosis. Students must perform standard clinical duties while in Costa Rica and are expected to work closely with a designated faculty mentor.

Ecuador – San Francisco University of Quito

This senior clinical elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the Ecuadorian health care system through clinical rotations in the areas of tropical medicine and community medicine in rural hospitals and in the third level hospitals of Quito. Rotations offered include pediatrics and subspecialties; anesthesiology; emergency medicine; internal medicine; infectology, cardiology; obstetrics and gynecology; and surgery. Students must also perform standard clinical duties while in Ecuador and are expected to work closely with a designated faculty mentor. Internships are also available for first year medical students at San Francisco University.

Egypt - Alexandria University of Egypt, Alexandria

This senior clinical elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the health care system in Egypt through clinical rotations at four hospitals in Alexandria. These hospitals include Amiry Hospital and Shatby Hospital with specializations in Obstetrics and Gynecology, and the Pediatric Hospital and El Hadara Hospital with specializations in Orthopedics and Neurology. Students will perform standard clinical duties and will gain a better understanding of Schistosomiasis, a major health risk in Egypt.

Eritrea – Orotta School of Medicine, Asmara

Opening January 2009: This senior elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the health care system in Eritrea through clinical rotations in pediatrics and surgery at the Orotta School of Medicine's facilities. Students will work closely with GWUMC and Eritrean faculty on-site. Students will gain a better understanding of health issues that affect Asmara and its surrounding communities.

France - Mission Interuniversitaire de Cooperation Des Echanges Franco-Americains (MICEFA), Paris

This senior elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the French health care system through clinical rotations at participating hospitals in the Mission Interuniversitaire des Echanges Franco-Americains (MICEFA) consortium in Paris, France. Students may select any clinical specialty or basic science research area at one of the thirteen Parisian medical institutions.

Haiti - Project MEDISHARE, Thomonde & Marmont

Medical missions through Project MEDISHARE allow GWUMC medical and public health students to experience healthcare in the central plateau of Haiti. Students will gain a better understanding of infectious

diseases and other health issues that plague Haiti's impoverished communities. Participants will have the opportunity to develop leadership qualities necessary to lead future medical missions.

India – Mahatma Gandhi Medical College and Hospital

This elective allows 3rd and 4th year GWUMC medical students the opportunity to experience the Indian Health Care system. Students may participate in clinical electives for up to 8 weeks at Mahatma Gandhi Hospital in Jaipur, India. Mahatma Gandhi Medical College will also provide GW students with free housing during their clinical rotation.

Japan – Nippon Medical School

This senior elective provides GWUMC medical students with a medical and cultural experience to foster a better understanding of the evolution of Japanese Emergency Medical Systems (EMS). Students will be exposed to cross-cultural differences in medical and post-graduate education, EMS system design and hospital operations. By the end of the program, students will have a better understanding of how Japanese Emergency Medical Systems serve their target population. Students are expected to work closely with a designated faculty mentor who will evaluate the student's progress.

Jordan - Jordan Hospital & Medical Center, Amman

This senior elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the Jordanian healthcare system through clinical rotations at Jordan Hospital. Students will be able to select a clinical rotation in the following areas: surgery; medicine; obstetrics and gynecology; pediatrics and anesthesiology.

Lebanon - American University of Beirut (AUB), Beirut

This clinical electives exchange allows GWUMC 3rd and 4th year medical students to experience the healthcare system at AUB, an institution that offers comprehensive healthcare services and extensive tertiary resources through its specialized care units. Students may choose from a variety of specialties.

Lebanon - Hammoud Hospital University Medical Center (HHUMC), Saida

This clinical elective allows GWUMC 3rd and 4th year medical students to experience the healthcare system as it is carried out at HHUMC and to work with the leading cardiac center in Lebanon. Students may select from a variety of other specialties as well. HHUMC will provide in-house accommodation and meal tickets for the duration of the elective.

Lebanon - Trad Hospital and Medical Center, Beirut

This senior clinical elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the Lebanese health care system through clinical rotations at TRAD Hospital, a small private hospital in Beirut, Lebanon. Students may select a clinical rotation from an array of specialties. A notable health issue that students may encounter is the rapid growth of breast cancer patients in Beirut.

Malta - University of Malta, Msida

This senior elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the Maltese health care system through clinical rotations at St. Luke's General Hospital in Msida. Students may select any clinical specialty or basic science. Both Thalassemia and Diabetes are health issues that students may encounter while rotating at St. Luke's.

Sri Lanka - Kelaniya University

This clinical elective allows GWUMC 3rd and 4th year medical students to gain a better understanding of the Sri Lankan healthcare education system at Kelaniya University. Students will be exposed to evaluation and treatment of infectious diseases, tropical medicine, and international health and nutrition issues. Students are able to choose rotations in several specialties and will additionally assist in promoting healthy lifestyles to Sri Lankan community members.

St. Lucia - College of Medicine and Health Sciences

This clinical elective allows GWUMC 3rd and 4th year medical students to gain a better understanding of the healthcare system through rotations at the College of Medicine and Health Sciences in St. Lucia, a Caribbean nation. Students may select any clinical specialty or basic science based upon availability. Although St. Lucia is a small nation, the student will gain knowledge of the importance of understanding diseases that are not well known in the United States.

Vietnam - Hue Medical College, Hue

This senior elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the healthcare system in Vietnam. Students may select a variety of specialties, including obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, surgery and infectious disease.

Jerusalem – Al-Quds University

This affiliation allows 4th year GWUMC medical students to complete clinical electives, as well as second year Master of Public Health students to complete internships and special programs. GW students will be allowed to participate in the same elective clerkships, internships and special projects as their host University colleagues on a space availability basis. Al-Quds Medical School offers the following clinical sections: Medicine and subspecialties, Surgery and subspecialties, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Pediatrics.

Israel – Sackler School of Medicine, University of Tel Aviv

This senior elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the Israeli healthcare system. GW students will be allowed to participate in the same elective clerkships as Sackler students. GW students can choose one of the following electives: anesthesiology, dermatology, internal medicine and its subspecialties, neurology, neurosurgery, OBS/GYN, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery, pediatrics, psychiatry, radiology, general surgery and urology

South Korea – Hallym University

This senior elective allows GWUMC medical students to experience the healthcare system in South Korea. Students can do rotations at one of five major hospitals in South Korea. Students can participate in any clinical elective offered by Hallym based on availability, and students rotating at Sacred Heart Hospital will be provided with free housing. Students can choose from the following elective options: medicine and subspecialties; pediatrics and subspecialties; family practice; anesthesiology; emergency medicine; clinical neuroscience; obstetrics and gynecology; surgery and surgical subspecialties; dermatology; otorhinolaryngology; and ophthalmology.

For more information, please contact:

The Office of International Medicine Programs
The George Washington University Medical Center

2300 I Street, NW, Suite 708
Washington, DC 20037

Phone: 202-994-2796

Fax: 202-994-0074

E-Mail: impawt@gwumc.edu