

First Name, Last Name
Email address

International Rotation

Country of Rotation

Departure Date

Return Date

Institution Contact (name/email)

Name of Institution

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

**Have you ever had a previous international educational experience?
Was your previous international experience related to global health?
Where did your previous international experience(s) take place?
How long was your previous international experience?
Have you been to this country before?
Have you been to this specific setting before?
Have other University of Michigan students/faculty been to this setting before?
Do you have friends or family living in the area?**

In 150 words or less, provide a description of the program where you will complete your international elective.

Incomplete Answer: I will complete my elective in _____ University, which is a national hospital in _____.

Complete Answer: ____ was founded to provide medical and dental care to remote populations living in the Upper Amazon Basin of Northeastern Peru. The Peruvian operations are headquartered in Iquitos, where we provide medical services and education to its residents and neighboring Belen. This international health rotation is comprised of a city portion and a jungle portion. Students spend a week in Iquitos assisting in medical clinics in the nearby underserved areas of Belen and Masusa. We also tour local health facilities. After our time in and around in Iquitos we will travel to the Yacumama Lodge on the Yarapa River or to the Pacaya Samaria Reserve, where we will stay for two weeks. We will travel by boat to jungle villages to perform clinic most days.

Complete Answer: During this 4-week pathology rotation at _____, the focus will be on molecular tumor pathology, biomarker assays, and targeted cancer therapies. However, students will also be exposed to all facets of the discipline, with the overarching goal of teaching students the theoretical and applied practice of pathological diagnosis and the role of the pathologist in clinical diagnosis within the German healthcare system. Students will participate and assist in autopsies, histological preparations, and will help in documenting findings. They will also be exposed to molecular analysis of tissues using PCR and in situ hybridization, cytopathological studies, and frozen sections. The rotation will also allow flexibility for the student to spend extra time with different sub-specialists within the Institute for Pathology depending on his/her interests. Lastly, students will receive an introduction to the emerging field of telepathology and its potentialities.

In 150 words or less, provide a description of the expected outcomes for this international elective.

Incomplete Answer: I expect to learn more about how Obstetrics and Gynecology is carried out and practiced in _____. I expect to learn how to manage patients with limited resources available.

Complete Answer: Overall, I plan to: 1. Observe the differences in physician training as compared to UMHS and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the Ethiopian model; 2. Attend didactic sessions with residents and medical students; 3. Observe the differences in patient care including inpatient and emergency care services as compared to UMHS; 4. Explore the nature of the physician-patient relationship and compare to that seen as UMHS. I have also identified learning objectives specific to my time in Gynecology and Labor & Delivery. I am hoping to help establish a Medical Students for Choice group to help encourage the family planning dialogue. Lastly, I am hoping to establish a role for visiting medical students at St. Paul's and work on developing a curriculum there for UMMS students.

Complete Answer: I expect to be regularly rotating through several different services throughout the four-week elective. My focus will be on acupuncture and traditional medicine. I expect to participate in patient interviews and take part in discussions related to appropriateness and effectiveness of treatment options. I expect to experience both the outpatient clinical setting as well as some inpatient services. I also expect to observe acupuncture treatments and hopefully learn about the philosophy and proper techniques. Lastly, I expect to interact with all type of medical personnel, from students to nurses to attendings and hope to get a better understanding of the culture of medicine in China.

In 150 words or less, describe what you expect to gain from this international experience.

Incomplete Answer: I hope to gain greater experience and competence in obstetrics and gynecology, in an international healthcare setting.

Complete Answer: I have had a long-standing interest in HIV and am very excited to learn about how HIV is managed in the Dominican Republic and how the culture responds to the diagnosis, specifically if there is significant stigma associated with HIV, and what kind of education about HIV/AIDS exists in the community and in schools. I am also hoping to learn how it is discussed in a medical setting with patients and about the preventative measures that are encouraged and used in different populations (domestically, in commercial sex workers, etc.). I have a background in Spanish, but am also hoping to improve my medical Spanish for use in my future career.

Complete Answer: I have not lived or worked outside the US for any length of time, and I have only limited experience working with immigrant and refugee populations. As I am going into family medicine and likely will be training in a program where a significant number of my patients will be immigrants or refugees, it is important for me to develop my cultural sensitivity and to being to learn other perspectives on health and expectations of the health care system. Working abroad will enable me to do this intensely, while also deepening my own sense of what it is like to be the foreigner, which will in turn help me better relate to my future patients. As I am interested in women's health, and because obstetrics and gynecology will comprise a significant part of my residency training, working in this field in _____ can be particularly formative for my career. Although there will be some language barriers, I should be able to communicate sufficiently in English to obtain as much medical and cultural education as possible.

In 150 words or less, explain why an international elective in global health is important to your medical education.

Incomplete Answer: International exposure helps medical students to realize alternate healthcare settings in other countries and also possible areas for medical service.

Complete Answer: I think it is important for future physicians to be aware of other cultures and how they may view diseases differently than people of our own cultures. I anticipate being involved in global health as part of my career as a pediatrician, but even working in the United States, there are people of many different backgrounds with many perspectives and it is critical for us to understand that our patients may not have the same beliefs regarding illness and treatment as we do. These beliefs may translate into what physicians may describe as non-compliance with recommended treatments, but with a deeper understanding of the patient's culture, or even just an understanding that these differences exist, I believe we can provide better treatment to all populations.

Complete Answer: Coming from a developing country myself, I have always been interested in learning more about the health challenges that developing countries face, but more importantly, how to help address them. I also believe that as we face more globalization, as American physicians we should also be well informed about issues affecting developing nations, whether or not we intend to admit responsibility or interest in effecting a positive change. However, even though global health education is receiving more recognition in most medical schools in the US, the reality is that most of the global health curriculum at US medical schools is happening informally during lunch-time meetings, in special pathways that 'preach to the choir' of students already interested in and fairly astute about global health issues, during limited elective time, or in the context of student-driven interest groups. As such, I feel it is important to gain more field experience through international rotations that will further inform and empower us as advocates for the political, socioeconomic, health systems change and skills transfer that are needed to address global health inequities, as well as embrace global citizenship in both our professional and private lives. I believe we must consider ourselves part of the larger world because diseases don't respect borders, and 'global health' is actually in all our back yards. Knowing what is going on outside our domestic bubble will only make us better doctors for our increasingly diverse patient population at home. These are some of the many reasons I believe and international elective in global health is an important part of my medical education.