

Where in the World?

Information on Overseas Medical Opportunities

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There are so many possibilities that the list below is only a good starting point; search engines are helpful; it often takes hard work to find the location and rotation that is right for you but the rewards are endless.

1) Where to start?

During your 3rd year rotations, identify a region of the world you would most like to venture. Think about what type of work you would most like to do, and through what type of organization. Utilize the resources below to make contacts at various hospitals, clinics, etc. regarding possible rotations.

2) When should I contact the sites?

Consider contacting sites of interest at least 1 year from the anticipated rotation time. Many popular sites fill early from medical students worldwide. Err on the safe side.

3) Then what?

Once you have selected a site (and been approved for that site), consider issues like travel expense, immunizations, passport, credit, etc. All of these issues are addressed below.

Basic Informational Websites

AMSA International Health Opportunities

<http://www.amsa.org/AMSA/Homepage/EducationCareerDevelopment/IntlHealthOpps.aspx>

International Federation of Medical Students Association

Receive contact information from various countries on the system

<http://www.ifmsa.org>

Student University Network for Social and International Health

Great planning worksheets and resources

<http://cihen.cstudies.ubc.ca>

International Health Medical Education Consortium (IHMEC)

<http://www.ihmec.org>

US Embassy Homepage

Useful database to obtain diplomatic emails, addresses, etc in most countries

<http://www.embpage.org>

<http://travel.state.gov/> can assist in obtaining passport and visa information

World Fact Book

Complete nation profiles including political, social, economic and geographic information
<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>

General Medical Opportunities

Health Volunteers International

PO Box 6157, Washington, DC 20035-5157

(202) 296-0928

Projects to teach indigenous health care workers in addition to providing service

OpSmile: plastic surgery outreach projects

http://www.operationsmile.com/student_news/medstudents.html

Project Concern: current medical projects in Guatemala and Romania

<http://www.projectconcern.org/youcanhelp.html>

Religious Affiliated Opportunities:**SIM International**

PO Box 7900 Charlotte NC 28241-9000

(704) 588-4300

<http://www.sim.org>

- over 1,800 missionaries worldwide; opportunities on most continents

TEAM

PO Box 6969 Wheaton, IL 60189-0969

<http://www.TEAMworld.org>

- in addition to staffing hospitals, TEAM has 2-12 month programs for 4th year medical students

World Gospel Mission (WGM) has Tenwek Hospital in Kenya

- staffed with volunteers from around the globe

CCURE

PO Box 2323, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2323

(717) 730-6706

<http://www.c2ure.org>

- Organization started by an orthopedic surgeon providing care in various places in East Africa (Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania) with plans to expand to other continents

Christian Medical Dental Society

PO Box 7500 Bristol, TN 37621-7500

888-231-2637

<http://www.cmds.org>

- Global Health Outreach: 1-2 week medical missions worldwide

Medical Missions International (MMI)

PO Box 940207 Plano, TX 75094

(214) 437-1995

<http://d-mitchell.tamu.edu/mmi/INDEX.HTM>

- Medical outreach for 2 week projects worldwide

Mennonite Medical Association

- <http://www.mennmed.org/mission/set.html>

World Medical Missions (WMM)

PO Box 3000 Boone, NC 28607

(704) 262 1980

<http://www.samaritan.org>

- Medical options for short/long term and emergency work

American Leprosy Missions (ALM)

1 ALM Way, Greenville, SC 29611

(800) 543-3131

- Options available worldwide; often through London based program

Operation Serve International

PO Box 18070, Fairfield, OH 45018

(888) 4-Serve-3

<http://www.operationserve.org>

- 10 day projects; 2001 projects to Egypt and Mexico

Development programs and emergency relief:

Medical Ambassadors

PO Box 576645, Modesto, CA 95357

(888) 403-0600

medamb@ix.netcom.com

- short term medical options

MAP International

PO Box 215000 Brunswick, GA 31521

(912) 280-6633

- general development work
- MAP-RDIF provides 3rd/4th year medical students, interns and residents overseas medical exposure in a Christian context providing 75% of airfare and other help. Contact RDIF Coordinator at crossen@map.org

Northwest Medical Teams International

<http://www.nwmti.org>

- long and short term developmental programs

The Luke Society

2204 S Minnesota Ave Suite 2000, Sioux Falls, SD 57105

<http://www.lukesociety.org>

Region Specific:

Africa:

Search: <http://www.africaonline.com> - country specific search engine for Africa

Operation Crossroads

- multiple projects ongoing throughout Africa
- <http://http://www.igc.org/oca/>

Cameroon:

Medical Centers of West Africa BP 382 Maroua, Republic of Cameroon

- hospital in northern Cameroon; mainly Muslim
- mcwafield@aiol.com

Kenya:

Tenwek Hospital, Bomet

- Christian affiliated hospital; 2 month rotations
- Email: tenwek@maf.org
- Fax: 011-254-036-22266

Kenya Medical Missions

kenyamedicalmsn@webtv.net

Kapsuwar Hospital, Eldoret

- affiliated with the Africa Inland Church
- PO Box 130, Eldoret, Kenya; # (0328) 61501 or 61542

Karatina Hospital, Karatina

- excellent clinical experience
- Dr. Njugunu, tumutumu@africaonline.co.ke

Malawi:

St. John's Hospital

- contact Dr. Mzuzo: stjhospital@malawi.net
- 215 bed hospital in northern Malawi; excellent location

Swaziland:

Good Shepard Hospital – excellent website; complete

- <http://home.ptd.net/~nwallace/section-1/information-gsh.htm>

Tanzania:

University of Dar es Salaam, Faculty of Medicine, PO Box 65001, DSM Tanzania

- contact by mail can require an added bit of time

Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center

kcmc@eoltz.com

- located in Moshi (south of Arusha) at the base of Kilimanjaro

Selian Lutheran Hospital, Arusha

- Contact Dr. Mark Jacobson
- <http://www.augustana.com/Africa/Arusha.htm>

Zambia:

St. Francis Hospital

Email: stfrhosp@zamnet.zm

Fax: 011-026-062-52278

Australia:

Cairns Base Hospital

Sandra_Perry@health.qld.gov.au

Caribbean:

HMT International – Dominican Republic and Haiti projects

<http://www.galaxymall.com/medical/missions/>

Jamaica:

Lucea, Hanover Clinic

- Rural clinic; 20 miles outside of Montego Bay
- Contact Tulane SOM; http://www2.tulane.edu/academics_sch_med.cfm

Central America:**Costa Rica:**

CPI Monteverde, Monteverde

- Medical professional language school with short term clinic options
- <http://www.cpi-edu.com/medicalmont.html>

Guatemala:

Centro Medico Bethesda, Barillas, Huehuetenango province, Guatemala.

- clinic/hospital has hosted medical students from the UW for years. Affiliated with “Hands for Peacemaking”
- rural Guatemala; see UW FaMed file

Ak'Tenamit Clinic, Rio Dulce, Guatemala. Rural riverfront clinic

- 4th year students; educational capacity instructing rural midwives and nurses. Contact Katy Mitchell, email: ktm@quetzal.net
- <http://www.mayaparadise.com/aktename.htm>

Hospital General de Totonicopan, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala.

- Full exchanges may be difficult here, worth checking out
- Rural teaching hospital, very welcoming of foreign students.
- Dra. Ana María Alegría Paz (EM) works very closely with medical students. She can be reached at: 4th Ave 1-20 Zona 5 Colonia Molina, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, CA
or Tel: 761.4935.

School of Medicine, National University of Guatemala; (USAC-Guatemala or USAC-Quetzaltenango)

- Two medical schools in Guatemala; both part of the national university
- One in Guatemala City; the other is in the slightly smaller, but much friendlier town of Quetzaltenango.
- It may be possible to set up a more formal exchange with them via the School of Medicine. Tel: 476.0985; the school of medicine extension is 451.

Escuela Nacional de Enfermera de Occidente, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala.

- Not a medical school, but worth a try; serves many hospitals
- Dra. Patricia Estrada, 12 Ave 0-18 Zn 1; Quetzaltenango, Guatemala; CA;
or call in Guatemala: 761.2449 or 761.3031

Nicaragua:

El Porvenir – work projects available in health and sanitation; flexible

- <http://www.elporvenir.org> or email: info@elporvenir.org

China:

UW China Exchange

- contact Dr. Dan Hunt for further details

India:

Delek Hospital, Dharamsala

- hospital serving refugee populations
- Dr. T.D. Sadutshang, delek@dsala.tibet.net

International Health Care Development Program, Jamkhed

- <http://www.eureka.edu/ihcdp/page7.htm>

Indonesia:

Senggo Christian Hospital, Wamena Irian

- Contact: Dr. Kenneth Dresser, PO Box 224, Wamena Irian, Jaya 99502

Japan:

Kameda Medical Center, Kamogawa City

- International student rotations available
- <http://www.kameda.com/Education/serv03.htm>
- <http://www.kameda.com>

Latin America:

Great general resource/web links (a bit commercial, but helpful):

- <http://www2.planeta.com/mader/ecotravel/ecotravel.html>

Amazon:

Amazon Medical Missions – a Christian medical outreach in the Amazon

<http://www.tvs.com.pe/amazonmed/join.htm>

Rainforest Health Project – 2 week opportunities in the Amazon

<http://www.rainforesthealth.org/>

Belize:

Belize Rural Elective

- University of Wisconsin based program; great resource for contacts
- <http://www.family.mcw.edu/Belize.htm>

Bolivia:

Andean Rural Healthcare

<http://www.main.nc.us/ARHC/>

Ecuador:

Foundation for Integrated Education and Development, Napo Province

- <http://www.funedesin.org>
- HCJB World Radio's Hospital Vozandes, Quito
- short term clinical opportunities in various Quito clinics
 - <http://www.hcjb.org.ec/shorteams/clinics.htm>

Nepal:

Kunde Hospital, Solukhumbu

- kunde@vishnu.ces1.com.pvp

Department of Medical Education, Kathmandu

- Dr. D.S. Pant, mededuc@healthnet.org.np
- resource to identify available sites

South Pacific:

Fiji:

Fiji School of Medicine

- open to taking medical students for various rotations
- Fiji SOM, Hoodless House, Suva, Fiji; (679) 311700

Philippines:

Erico Gruet, Dean of Medicine, Cebu Doctors College of Medicine

ebgruet@cdc-cdh.edu

- rural medicine opportunities

R. Arcadio, Dean of Medicine, UP College of Medicine

- many opportunities available
- deanupcm@epic.net

Vietnam:

International Clinic, Ho Chi Minh City

- M. Mulder, MD @ mjmulder@hotmail.com

Search Engines

<http://www.healnation.org/links.htm>

Awesome site with web links to some of the best search lists on overseas medical opportunities, Christian and otherwise.

<http://www.mfinder.org/medicine.htm>

<http://www.christianmissions.net/search>

<http://www.sim.org>

Helpful Resources

International Travel Health Guide, 8th ed. Rose, Stuart.

Travel & Tropical Medicine Manual. E Jong, R McMullen (UW faculty).

- an excellent travel/tropical medicine resource

Where There Is No Doctor : A Village Health Care Handbook. D Werner, et al.

- inexpensive and covers many basics; Peace Corps necessity

Oxford Handbook of Tropical Medicine. M Eddleston, S Pierini.

Funding:

Creative Funding for International Health Electives – AMSA

This is the best resource available regarding funding options and lists many of the programs below

<http://www.amsa.org/resource/amsarc/creative/creative.htm>

MAP/Reader's Digest International Fellowships

<http://www.map.org>

Pays 75% of airfare/travel expense

Will help with placement (contact early)

The James S. Westra Memorial Endowment Fund of the CMDS

<http://www.cmds.org> then Search: Westra

The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention (for Baptists)

<http://www.imb.org/>

Ms. Brenda Moncrief, Program Coordinator (804) 353-0151

The American Medical Women's Association's American Women's Hospitals

<http://www.amwa-doc.org/Foundation/awhs.htm>

The American Bureau for Medical Advancement in China (Taiwan)

Annie Kang c/o New York Academy of Medicine 1216 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10029
212-860-1990

The Paul Alexander Memorial Fund of Management Sciences for Health

c/o Jean Alexander 1666 Coffman #220 St. Paul, MN 55108

612-647-1231; alexa019@gold.tc.umn.edu

Funds an international public health project

Global Health Ministries (Lutherans)

<http://www.ghm.org/>

The Charles S. Houston Award of the Wilderness Medical Society

PO Box 2463 Indianapolis, IN 46206

Wilderness and environmental medicine electives

Partners of the Americas

<http://www.partners.net/English/indexeng.htm>

Any organization (like a church or ethnic organization) to which you belong

Sister City Organizations

Sister Cities International 120 South Payne Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

703-836-3535