

Participation in the delivery of health care in other countries is an important opportunity for students to serve others and also benefit their own medical education. Students take care of individuals with a wide range of disease processes, many of which are rarely seen in the United States. Students may have the opportunity to be supervised in the performance of multiple medical procedures such as lumbar puncture, thoracocentesis, paracentesis, bone marrow biopsy, deliveries, cesarean sections, etc. Students are exposed to different cultural and economic realities, raising awareness of the importance of these issues in all health care activities, both domestic and international. Depending upon the location of the international experience, students may have the opportunity to develop or consolidate non-English language skills. Students interact with trainees and physicians who have been educated in different systems and thus are exposed to different perspectives on the practice of medicine.

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