International Medicine Elective in Brazil

Describe the overall educational goals of the program.

A two week elective will be completed with most of the days being spent in Fortaleza, Brazil. There, the residents and any accompanying medical students will serve in several different capacities. Brazil is known to be second in the world for sexual exploitation of children (Thailand being first). As such, the Davis Lar orphanage was established in 2000 to address this pressing need. According to the website: “The orphanage focuses on the child victims of prostitution, drug trafficking, abuse, and abandonment, providing homes and restoring the children to spiritual, physical and emotional health while reaching out to their families and communities.” Residents and students will spend one to two days completing medical physicals on the children at the orphanage and addressing any acute needs. The resident will be exposed to important health issues such as malnutrition, working with children that come from troubled backgrounds, and assisting in the goals of an international orphanage. The next part of the trip will be spent working in a favela (a Brazilian slum) in Oitao Pretoa with a project called Shine. This is a unique organization that focuses primarily on street children. Working here will enable residents/students to witness and better understand the environments many of the children at the orphanage have come from. This will allow residents/students unique exposure to important health issues affecting the impoverished such as nutrition, child health, and tropical infectious diseases. The trip will culminate with a trip to the Brazilian interior or countryside where the people are equally impoverished and without basic medical care. In the interior the residents will visit the local hospital and see patients in "walk in" clinics. The overall goal for this experience is to provide the resident with exposure to varied settings in a foreign environment and to foster enthusiasm and compassion for caring for those with limited access to routine medical care. The experience will afford the resident unique exposure to health care policy outside of the United States. Didactics for this rotation are provided through the Institute for International Medicine online medicine course. The online course material consists of four modules including: determinants of health, diseases of poverty, cross-cultural skills, and health leadership in international medicine. The resident will complete a fifty question post-test after completing the course material. The curriculum will be organized and taught in such a fashion so as to satisfy the resident's attaining skills in the six general competencies. Attached is a description of these competencies.

2. List specific learning objectives of the program.
By the end of the two-week elective, the resident will:
1. Provide care for adults and pediatric patients in a clinic setting.
2. Provide care for pediatric patients in an orphanage (mostly performing well child exams).
3. Provide care for adults and pediatric patients in the Brazilian interior.
4. Develop an effective style of communication with Brazilian patients through direct patient interactions and the use of interpreters.
5. Understand how modern medicine can be used to meet needs via a rudimentary clinic.
6. Gain understanding of predominant public health issues and resources available in a unique cultural setting.
7. Read through and understand the four modules presented in the course material: determinants of health, diseases of poverty, cross-cultural skills, and health leadership in international medicine.

3. Identify primary faculty and supervisors for Residents/Fellows on rotation in this program.

Dr. Jeremy Byrd  
Department of Medicine  
jeremybyrd7@gmail.com

Dr. Gregg Johnson  
Greer Memorial Hospital  
GJohnson2@ghs.org

Dr. Byrd will serve as the primary faculty supervisor.

4. Specify the number of Residents/Fellows, their specialties, their training level and rotation period.
We will have several different upper-level residents accompanying us as well as one fourth year medical student.

5. Summarize the agreed upon form of evaluation and the procedure for reviewing the evaluation with each Resident/Fellow.
The resident will be formally evaluated at the end of rotation using standard evaluation forms provided by the GHS Internal Medicine and Pediatrics programs. At the end of the rotation, residents will also be required to complete an online test which evaluates the knowledge gained regarding international medicine during the rotation. The resident’s evaluation will reflect their performance in the six general competencies as outlined by the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

6. Describe the duty-hours and on-call schedules of the Residents/Fellows.
The proposed schedule includes 2 weeks of general medicine and pediatrics (this includes one weekend). No overnight call is expected. The resident’s work hours will comply with the 80 hours/week policy.

7. Set forth the program curriculum.
The residents will spend the days prior to leaving reviewing the online course material provided by the Institute for International Medicine and modules as discussed above. We will spend one to two days at the orphanage. Two to three days will spent in the favelas. Two days will be spent in the interior (Brazilian countryside).

8. Specify a process for regular communication between the authorized representatives.
Dr. Jeremy Byrd, is the primary contact person for this elective for both the med/peds and
pediatric residents. The resident will be available by email or phone, and any problems arising in the program would be immediately communicated to Dr. Byrd and subsequently to the respective program director.