

MEDICAL ELECTIVES

Taking you where the textbooks can't!

If you are a medical student with a serious interest in Christian mission work, then you might want to combine your interest with your medical elective. SIM can provide you with an opportunity for a supervised elective to be part of your training.

SIM can arrange for medical students to take their elective in one of several SIM or EHA (Emmanuel Hospital Administration) hospitals. During the elective you will gain medical experience not to be found in Australia and at the same time discover life in another culture first-hand.



You will also have the chance to be involved in the Christian community around the hospital and to assess whether God may be calling you to overseas medical missionary service.

How do I organise a placement?

- Establish the dates you are available for your elective placement. You should plan to have six weeks in the hospital
- Contact your SIM state ministry director (SMD) and let them know of your interest, your dates and whether there is a hospital in which you are most interested (we can't guarantee a specific hospital)
- Since SIM works in partnership with local churches, it is important that you discuss this with your church leaders
- Complete an application form, ideally 12–18 months ahead of your elective. The forms are available from your SMD
- Provide SIM with the elective requirements from your university

What will SIM do?

- Call you for an interview
- Upon acceptance, send you detailed information on all aspects of the needed preparation including travel, medical, fund-raising, prayer support, orientation and the elective project
- Arrange accommodation, elective supervision and pastoral care while you are overseas
- Organise a debrief to evaluate your experience

SIM
Serving In Mission

SIM Australia
PO BOX 42
Penshurst NSW 2222
02 9580 1422

www.sim.org.au

Hospital Information

Bembereke Hospital

Country: Benin

Location: Bembereke, north of Parakou

Required language: French

Approximate size: 100 beds

Details: Rural general hospital, with acute medical, infectious diseases, surgical care, maternity, TB isolation ward, OPD and Community Health Care of 12 villages

Duncan Hospital (one of the EHA hospitals)

Country: India

Location: Duncan, Raxaul

Required language: English

Approximate size: 155 beds

Details: Busy urban district general hospital with OPD, Obstetrics, Surgery, Ophthalmic, Dental, Community Health Project

Evangel Hospital

Country: Nigeria

Location: Evangel, Jos

Required language: English

Approximate size: 160 beds

Details: Urban, Medicine, Paediatrics, Surgery, Obstetrics, OPD, Rural Community Health Project



Galmi Hospital

Country: Niger

Location: Galmi, Madaoua

Required language: French

Details: Rural, Medical, Surgical, OB, Nutrition, Dental, OPD, Under 5 clinic, Community-based integrated development

Mukinge Hospital

Country: Zambia

Location: Mukinge, Kasempa, North Western Province

Required language: English

Approximate size: 202 beds

Details: Rural general hospital with 7 wards (male, female, maternity, TB, acute children, chronic children, eye/isolation), operating theatre and OPD. Eye care and AIDS prevention programs

Some insights from Alicia Montgomery who did her medical elective in Northern India,

"I spent two months in Northern India doing a medical elective. The hospital is really bringing glory to God. I wish you could see it! The doctors and nurses work so hard, and have such a good reputation that people travel from bigger cities with other hospitals, just to go there. It would be hard for patients to leave without hearing the Gospel. There is open-air preaching every day in the courtyard where people wait, they pray before procedures and there are scriptures posted up in Hindi, all over the place.

I saw plenty of interesting medical cases that are incredibly rare in Australia and despite having little Hindi, I had great opportunities to practise examination skills. I think by far the highlight of my time there was meeting Christians serving there who have given up comfortable lives to serve the Lord in such a needy place. The staff were devoted to meeting the physical and spiritual needs of the patients who struggle in financial and spiritual poverty."

