

Student Elective Report

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| Name | Komal Khan |
| Medical School | Barts & The London Medical School |
| Email (optional) | |

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| Country visited | USA |
| City or town | New York |
| Hospital/unit/clinic | NewYork- Presbyterian Burn Center |
| Dates visited | 03/2017-05/2017 |
| Supervising doctor | James. Gallagher MD |
| Contact details of your host: | dey2001@med.cornell.edu |

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| Please give an overview of what you saw / did (200 words max) | <p>I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to complete my elective at the NewYork-Presbyterian Burn Center (NYPH). The Burn Center is one of the major centers in New York and within the United States. It is houses some of the pioneering experts in burn management and complex wound management.</p> <p>During my placement I was able to see the management of burn injuries- from initial presentation, to when patients have skin grafts and to eventual discharge from hospital. My time was spent on the general Burns ward and Burns ICU. This meant I was able to see a wide range of treatments and meet a variety of patients- from those who suffered minor burns, to those who sustained severe injuries.</p> <p>My time during the placement was split between the ward, assisting in theatre and being able to see patients on my own in clinic. I was able to take responsibility of patients and present them during rounds and devise management plans. During clinic I was able to see clerk patients and then present my findings to the attending (consultant) and suggest the patient care plan.</p> |
| What were the best things about the visit? (120 words max) | <p>Overall, my time at NYPH was one of the best learning experiences so far. I was very lucky to see and learn so much. I was able to not only see burns injuries but I was also fortunate to see the management of conditions such as Stevens-Johnson Syndrome which I had only seen and read about in medical textbooks.</p> <p>I am so grateful for the team at NYPH and Cornell for welcoming me. The Burn Center does not receive many students and so they were very eager to teach and show what they do. The admin at Cornell will also arrange for you to meet the other visiting students so you come</p> |

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| | away making lots of new friends! |
| What problems did you encounter? (120 words max) | <p>For anyone who knows the US application for electives, the amount of paperwork that needs to be completed can be quite troublesome. Deadlines are very strict and most documents need to be posted. It is important that you leave enough time to do this.</p> <p>Living costs in the Big Apple are comparable to London and maybe more. It was lucky that Dianne of the student office kindly supplied some vouchers to visiting students which were very handy.</p> <p>The hours you work during your placement can differ but I was treated as an intern which meant arriving at 6am to prepare for ward round and staying until 6pm for the night handover. This may be a struggle for some.</p> |
| What accommodation was provided? | I decided to use Air BnB for my accommodation and was lucky enough to find a great apartment which was approx. 10mins bus ride from the hospital. However, you are able to apply through Cornell University for accommodation at student halls but this is limited. |
| Would you recommend this to someone else? (explain if necessary) | I would definitely recommend doing a placement at NY-Presbyterian and particularly at the Burn Center. It is a great experience and I have come back having great exposure to not only Surgery but also acute medicine. The team was very welcoming and I felt like an integral member of the team very quickly. |
| Are you more likely to choose a career in plastic surgery as a result of this experience? | Definitely! The experience has confirmed my desire of pursuing a career in plastic surgery and particularly within Burns. |