UNC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE EMERGENCY PLAN FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS AND SOM FACULTY

We want you to have safe and enjoyable experiences while you are abroad and we also want to be certain that you have the information needed to respond to an emergency if needed.

PLEASE PRINT OUT THIS INFORMATION TO TAKE WITH YOU. ALSO, GIVE A COPY TO A CLOSE FAMILY MEMBER STAYING IN THE USA ALONG WITH YOUR PASSPORT INFORMATION, ITINERARY FOR TRAVEL, AND EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

UNC medical students (and SOM faculty) traveling as part of their education, for research or other formal work, or those who have received funding through the University, must all review the U.S. State Department country-specific consular information and any travel warnings or alerts (http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html) As well, review the information on the Center for Disease Control website (http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/) prior to travel. Though there are inherent unpredictable risks with living and working globally, it is our intention that UNC SOM students (as well as faculty) who are traveling for global health opportunities will have the information necessary to be as safe as possible and be prepared to respond in an emergency.

Pre-Travel Requirements for ALL UNC students and faculty
Please note that university policy REQUIRES all students, faculty, staff and other associates traveling abroad in affiliation with UNC to enroll in the international travelers’ health, evacuation, and repatriation insurance program established by General Administration for the UNC System through Highway to Health.

If you would like to have additional insurance coverage beyond time with UNC work/study, you can purchase “before and after coverage” for a maximum of 30 days directly through HTH. For an overview of what this insurance covers, please see the HTH coverage information.

HTH Website: http://www.hthtravelinsurance.com/
HTH brochure: https://www.med.unc.edu/oia/files/HTH%20coverage%20information.pdf

All students and faculty are REQUIRED to register their individual trip in the UNC Global Travel Registry (http://globaltravel.unc.edu/login.cfm) and sign the embedded Travel Policy at the end of the Registry.

UNC Office of the Provost closely follows the information from the U.S. State Department (for political and civil unrest issues as well as natural disasters) and the Center for Disease Control (for health/epidemic issues) in making decisions about where UNC students and faculty can travel at any given time based on health and safety risks and the UNC Global Travel Registry is used to contact individuals if needed. It is important to be aware that some countries are off limits for travel for academic/research purposes. The list of countries changes when new travel warnings and alerts are released by the State Department or CDC. This policy is intended to keep us safe. Current travel warnings are listed here: http://global.unc.edu/travel-info/state-department-travel-warnings/

Go to this website before you leave the US, and record this information for your country of travel so you have it easily available. Before you travel, you should also complete travel registration on the US Dept of State website at: https://step.state.gov/step/. This lets the State Department know that you are traveling/staying in a particular country in case there is a need to find you.

Destination Country: __________
Address and phone # of US Embassy or Consulate:______________________________________________________________

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**EMERGENCY PLAN:**

BE PREPARED to give information on the name of the person injured/ill or the situation that has occurred along with time, date and place, the telephone # of the person reporting the emergency and a time and # when further communication can take place about the emergency and preferred method (fax, phone, email)

1. **If you have a medical emergency** (serious illness/hospitalization or injury/ injury due to sexual or other assault) that may need attention beyond what is locally available while you are out of the USA, contact the HTH Worldwide at 1-800-257-4823 (toll free inside the US) or 1-610-254-8771 (toll free outside the US) or email globalhealth@hthworldwide.com. If it is a life threatening emergency, seek medical care THEN call HTH Worldwide.

2. **If you have a non-medical emergency** (know of a disappearance/kidnapping of another student or criminal assault or you are involved in a police action) contact the US embassy or consulate in the country where you are staying. If appropriate, embassy personnel will contact local police on your behalf. Embassy/Consulate information is available at: http://www.embassiesabroad.com/

3. **If there is concern for serious political crisis or a national disaster** (political violence or state of emergency, natural disaster such as a flood or hurricane) in the country where you are staying which is recognized as a state of emergency necessitating evacuation, contact the US embassy who will have information available and a plan for US citizens living abroad for safety precautions and/or evacuation if necessary. In the instance of concern regarding serious political crisis or natural disaster, contact the US embassy THEN contact HTH Worldwide as in some situations they may assist with evacuation or emergency plans.

4. **If you are a victim of sexual assault/sexual violence abroad**, you may contact SASHAA (Sexual Assault Support & Help for Americans Abroad). They provide confidential sexual assault prevention & response worldwide: http://sashaa.org/contact-the-crisis-center/ When you return to the US, confidential counseling services are available for students, staff and faculty. Students may call Counseling and Psychological Services at 919-966-2281 on weekends and after hours. During regular business hours, students are encouraged to call 919-966-3658. Faculty should contact the Employee Assistance Program at 877-314-5841.

5. **In all situations of emergency**, contact the UNC Department of Public Safety 24/7 emergency line so that we are able to support you at UNC as well. (919-962-8100). If you are a medical student, ask them to page Dr. Dent, Assoc. Dean of Student Affairs (919-216-1534) or office line (919-962-8335) OR the Office of International Activities during business hours (919-962-6195). If you are an Allied Health Sciences student, ask them to contact Brenda Mitchell (919) 966-9038 during office hours or cell # (919) 308-5544.

**Additional info**

If you are recording your experiences and photos on a blog or website, please send Shay Slifko (shay_slifko@med.unc.edu) the website address and we’ll link it to the OIA website (www.med.unc.edu/oia) so others who are interested can follow you.

Remember, if you are getting elective credit or financial support (or fellowships or grants from UNC) for your global health experience you must have the preceptor who is working with you internationally complete a preceptor evaluation form (this should go to your UNC faculty advisor for completing your evaluation/grade for the elective) and you must complete an elective evaluation form which should be returned to the OIA electronically.

*Thank you and safe travels from the Office of International Activities!*

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