

Scholarly Concentration in Global Health Competencies for UNC medical students

The Scholarly Concentration in Global health aims to train globally-minded physicians in the practice, research, and study of health and its determinants with the goal of working towards health equity worldwide.

1) Social and Environmental Determinants of Health

- a) Understand the impact of social determinants including: socioeconomic status, race, religion, education, gender issues and sexual orientation, and living conditions on life expectancy, morbidity and mortality, and access to health care.
- b) Demonstrate an understanding of the variety of environmental factors that can impact individual and population health (e.g. water and sanitation, air pollution, food security and climate change/deforestation).
- c) Demonstrate an understanding of how differing employment opportunities, differing practices of child labor laws, and gender-based workplace discrimination and workplace safety can impact immediate and long-term health conditions.
- d) Develop an awareness of the social support mechanisms and networks for individuals and populations during periods of increased stress in low resourced settings.

2) Global Burden of Disease and Public Health

- a) Demonstrate a basic understanding of health indicators and how they are measured and may be used effectively to monitor the impact of public health interventions (e.g. DALY, under 5 mortality life expectancy).
- b) Identify the major categories of morbidity and mortality as defined by the WHO (e.g. communicable diseases including water borne and parasitic diseases maternal and child health, nutritional deficiencies, non-communicable disease, injuries/violence, mental health), and describe their epidemiology in low, middle and high income countries how these are changing over time.
- c) Demonstrate an awareness of the diseases endemic to or more frequently encountered in resource-limited settings including malnutrition, tuberculosis, HIV, and parasitic infections.
- d) Describe effective public health interventions for mitigating the morbidity and mortality associated with common conditions such as infectious disease, trauma, non-communicable diseases, malnutrition, etc.
- e) Understand the role of global health organizations, including health-related UN organizations (e.g. WHO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF), multinational, bilateral and governmental bodies and INGO/NGOs that influence global health policy and funding, and be able to describe some examples of international goals and targets for improving global public health (e.g. UN Sustainable Development Goals).

3) Health Care in Resource-Constrained Settings/ Comparison of Healthcare Systems

- a) Recognize key factors in how provision of and funding for clinical care may be different in many low resource settings, including: limited advanced diagnostic tools, task sharing with non-physician providers and cost effective care.
- b) Understand the unique barriers to access to health care in resource-limited settings including limited human resources and infrastructure, limited prevention and treatment programs, and disrespect and abuse in health care settings.
- c) Develop awareness of the myriad health systems and care delivery strategies in resource-limited settings.

- d) Understand the effect of technology on health care delivery in resource-limited settings.
- e) Understand how global health projects and initiatives are funded internationally by UN agencies, governments, non-profits, and private donors.

4) **Professionalism and Communication**

- a) Understand components of culturally appropriate care including being able to elicit a history and perform a physical exam in a culturally sensitive manner and consider non-Western concepts of health and disease.
- b) Demonstrate awareness of effective communication approaches for the delivery of health care messages in communities with limited literacy and education.
- c) Understand how to effectively use for communicating with patients and families
- d) Understand how to communicate effectively and respectfully with physicians and other health professionals in international settings.
- e) Promote inclusion of a diverse group of local stakeholders in partnerships to enhance sustainability of healthcare interventions.
- f) Demonstrate respect for professional colleagues of differing levels of knowledge, skills, and practices in an international setting while also acknowledging one's own limitations.

5) **Social Justice and Human Rights**

- a) Understand how access to health care is an international human right and where and how this is protected and not protected.
- b) Understand the unique barriers to health experienced by vulnerable groups including as refugees and internally displaced persons, commercial sex workers, migrant workers, religious minorities, and those with disabilities
- c) Describe inequities in access to basic services and protections in countries with less or different resources than most higher income countries.
- d) Develop an understanding and awareness of the healthcare workforce crisis and brain drain in low resourced settings.
- e) Develop an awareness of the different structures of graduate medical education and cadres of healthcare workforce in low resourced settings and contrast LIC and higher income countries.
- f) Understand the complexities of protecting vulnerable populations and ethical research practices in global health.

6) **Local "Global" Health and Globalization**

- a) Describe the epidemiology and major causes of morbidity and mortality for migrant, immigrant, refugee, and other marginalized populations that have lived or traveled outside of the United States.
- b) Demonstrate awareness of cultural differences relevant to care of international populations, in particular as relates to traditional medicine.
- c) Demonstrate understanding of some of the resources available to immigrant and refugee populations in North Carolina and throughout the United States.
- d) Understand health risks associated with travel, specifically the general patterns of disease and injury in the different regions of the world and how travel related illness are spread to other populations