



help...
learn...
explore!



MEDICINE & PHYSIOTHERAPY

Most volunteers participate in a **general medicine** placement, usually spending most of the time in one hospital, moving round between different departments like maternity, outpatients, accident and emergency, paediatrics, orthopedics, surgery, nursing and so on. If you want to spend more time in one specific department, let us know and we can usually tailor the placement to suit any preferences. In some countries like India and Mongolia you can also spend some time in specialised clinics like a leprosy centre or TB hospital. How involved you can get in the medical procedures does depend on the country you're in and your level of experience, however, many pre-university volunteers find that they do get a significant amount of hands-on experience that they could not gain in their local hospital.



■ Physiotherapy

For anyone wanting to gain experience in physiotherapy we have placements in Bolivia and Nepal where you can spend your placement working alongside local physiotherapists helping with post-surgery treatment and other hands-on techniques. In Nepal the placement is at the Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre for Disabled Children (HRDC) just outside of Kathmandu and in Bolivia at the Burns Unit in Cochabamba. There are also opportunities for qualified physiotherapists to work on these placements and pass on your experience or for physiotherapy students to complete electives with us.

■ Medicine & Physiotherapy

Our medical and physiotherapy placements offer volunteers the chance to gain invaluable experience in a range of diverse destinations. Give yourself that extra experience demanded by universities, complete an elective overseas or simply spend some time assisting in hospitals and clinics where volunteers are desperately needed. Our placements are flexible and can be tailored to your needs and experience. Whether you are accompanying a doctor on his daily rounds in a big general hospital, helping out in a rural clinic or learning about traditional healing, a placement with Teaching & Projects Abroad will give you a unique insight into the medical profession. Most placements run from a month upwards, with most volunteers choosing to spend about three months on a project.



■ Medicine in Ghana

"One special moment was when I was observing in an Obstetrics and Gynaecology hospital in Sivakasi. I was talking to a mother who had just given birth. We managed to overcome the language barrier and after a while I realised she was asking me to name her beautiful baby girl. What a privilege! I chose 'Sylvie', the only Indian name I had come across that sounded remotely English and the mother seemed please with that. We also organised a basketball game at the hospital, which was fun because not only were the children all playing whilst they had plaster casts on at least one part of their bodies, but by the end the parents and doctors were joining in too – rarely did everyone join together like that to have fun!"

■ Tracy de Castro
Medical volunteer in Nepal and India



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■ 2-Week Specials

For volunteers aged between 16 and 19 the 2-Week Specials offer a chance to gain experience before committing to a longer placement or a future career. Running on set dates during July and August we offer structured trips to Mongolia and India to get a taste of medicine in the developing world.

■ Back up and Support

Throughout your entire medicine or physiotherapy placement with Teaching & Projects Abroad you will have constant support from a supervisor at your placement and from local Teaching & Projects Abroad staff. On arrival a member of Teaching & Projects Abroad staff will meet you at the airport, take you to your accommodation and give you an induction to the area, then usually the following day they will take you to your placement and introduce you to your supervisor. At this stage you can sit down and discuss your work schedule and ask any questions you may have. The next day you will return to start work fully.



Helping with surgery

"My favourite department had to be maternity where I got to observe natural births (something I had never experienced before!), bath and weigh new born babies, carry out physical examinations under the supervision of a doctor, assist the nurses with patient care on the ward including the recording of vitals such as blood pressure and temperature, and attend antenatal classes where I got to give tetanus injections and listen to the heartbeat of a foetus! I think my experience at Tetteh Quarshie hospital in the Akuapem Hills has definitely given me an edge over other undergraduate medics and I have certainly become even more enthused and committed to becoming a doctor!"

■ Sarah Lownsbrough, Medical volunteer in Ghana

"Upon arrival in Cochabamba I was expecting an adventure, and with that a lot of fun. Four weeks later I can honestly say that things have been better than I ever could have imagined. At home with my new family I was warmly welcomed and am made to feel like a part of their family. They've done everything possible to help me settle in and feel comfortable. At work on my medical placement at the Centro de Salud, I've been spending time with patients before they see the doctor, giving vaccinations to school children and watching as patients have their wounds dressed or cleaned. It's interesting to see the different problems that affect different parts of the world. I have no regrets over choosing Bolivia for my medical placement and am looking forward to the next 3 months."

■ Christopher Jones, Medical volunteer in Bolivia

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www.projects-abroad.co.uk

Teaching & Projects Abroad

Further information...

If you would like any information on Medicine or Physiotherapy placements, or any other projects please do not hesitate to get in contact with us. Our staff are always happy to help!



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