



American University of the Caribbean

School of Medicine

Why do Rotations in Europe?

Traveling to the U. K. for clinical rotations is certain to add a new dimension to your medical education. It will provide you with a valuable opportunity to enrich your medical experience and embrace a new culture. As you advance to the clinical aspect of your medical education and explore rotation options, you may want to consider the following:

- There are six sites in England and one in Ireland at which students may do their core rotations.
- All sites offer all five core clinicals, although at two or three places it may be necessary to travel five or ten miles for one of the following: pediatrics, psychiatry, and obstetrics & gynecology.
- U. K. sites offer excellent training and experience. One appealing aspect regarding sites in Britain and Ireland is that they place more emphasis (than the U. S.) on history-taking, physical diagnosis and 'hands-on' experience.
- Medicine in Britain and the U. S. is very similar, and is based on work by teams of small groups of doctors and students.
- All of the hospitals in Britain are approved for resident training, and all of them host lunchtime educational meetings that you are welcome to attend. These meetings range from grand rounds to journal clubs and teaching for interns.
- Many of the hospitals have seminars dedicated to students.
- All of the hospitals have well developed educational centres that include a library containing textbooks and all the main medical journals, together with computer and Internet facilities.
- British patients are very receptive to American students.
- The U. K. is full of beautiful historic villages and buildings, ranging from cathedrals that are 800 years old to historic Stately Homes that you can visit.
- The countryside is covered by thousands of public footpaths that traverse farmlands, making a day's hike easy, legal and free (except for fares to and from the site of the hike).
- London is known for its exceptional theatre with upwards of forty theatres that you can go to for between \$20-\$60. It also has four of the world's greatest art galleries.
- The cost of living in Britain is roughly the same or perhaps marginally more than many parts of the U.S.
- Students often inquire if doing their cores in Europe will hurt their chances of securing a residency in the U. S. The good news is that this a false perception entirely without merit. We advise students to structure their rotations by returning to the U. S. for their electives. Not only will this enable them to become familiar with the slight cultural nuances between the U. S. and U. K. medical systems, it will also facilitate networking with U. S. hospitals for residency appointments.

Overall course organizers:

Dr. Saeed Moalypour, Dean of Clinical Studies, Europe

Dr. Kevin Ward for Waterford Hospital

Dr. Shukri Shami for Romford Hospital

Dr. Douglas Model, Asst. Dean of Clinical Studies, Europe

Medical Education Administration Services

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