PUBLIC HEALTH EXCHANGE INTERNSHIP FORM (SCOPH EXCHANGE Internship Form) (SISM Italy)

General Information

Name of the Internship’s Project: The migration process as a social determinant of health

Name and address of the department: U.O.S. Medicina-Migrazioni, A.O.U.P Paolo Giaccone, Via del Vespro 129, 90127 Palermo

Type of the Department:

☐ Governmental Institute  ☐ Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)

☒ Hospital/ Medical Institute  ☐ Other, please mention

Head of the department: Mario Affronti

Tutor(s): Mario Affronti

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Description of the Internship

The history of migrations to Italy began more than 40 years ago and in the last ten years over 50,000 migrants have landed in Sicily. The concept of health as a fundamental individual right is enshrined in Article 32 of the Italian constitution. Consequently, any foreigner present in Italy, regardless of his or her status, is entitled to access public health services. Nevertheless, health services provided to migrants mostly adopt an assimilation model rather than a multicultural one. As future doctors, we should acquire theoretical knowledge and practical skills in order to face this phenomenon guaranteeing migrants’ rights to access health care. This is the reason why we consider crucial for medical students to do an internship in a specialized department to be able to perform the right work-up of the patient.

Problem Statement: Please describe the main issue(s) addressed during the internship:

Migrants are not a homogeneous group, in Sicily we have different subgroups having different social, economic and cultural circumstances that account for their varying vulnerabilities throughout the migration process. That means that the process of migration itself is a social determinant of health and the student will have to face different experiences during transit and travel, different legal status of the individual, different working and living conditions to which migrants are subject. Social and cultural barriers to integration, acculturation stress, exclusion and discrimination, changes in lifestyle and loss of family and friendship networks are additional factors impacting the health of migrants that the student will have to consider and analyze carefully.

What is the main goal(s) of the Internship?

The main goals of the internship are:

- gaining awareness of the medical, cultural, linguistic and metalinguistic barriers in the access to health care allowed to map the gaps between migrants’ needs and services provided;

- training medical students on managing diversity;

- learning the current interventions and best practices to promote the health of migrants in Sicily.
What are the objectives of the Internship?

The objectives of the Internship are:

- learning fundamentals in order to provide multicultural care, such as knowing others as cultural beings, developing nonverbal and verbal communication skills that facilitate mutual understanding, applying patient-centered multicultural communication models in clinical encounter and developing multicultural negotiation skills;

- Promoting health literacy among migrants

What is the expected outcome(s) of the Internship?

The student will have to produce a report about a case study or a specific topic at the end of the exchange.

The impact will be assessed in the student's report at the end of his internship.

Type of the Internship:

☑ Advocacy ☐ Campaigning and Education ☐ Research ☒ Clinical Work

☐ Other, please mention

Exchange Student’s Role:

Will there be any theoretical teaching provided (preliminary reading, lectures, courses, seminars)?

Yes, we will provide preliminary reading before the start of the exchange.

What is the role of the student and what is expected from him/her during the exchange?

The role of the student during the internship will consist in assisting the tutor, observing and being an active learner. He will participate to some educational activities about health literacy, social determinants of health and noncommunicable diseases.
What should be the outcome of the student’s participation on the exchange internship (paper, poster etc.)?

The student will produce a multimedia report and do a presentation to the tutor at the end of the exchange. This report can be about a specific case study or a specific topic faced during the internship.

Will you be providing performance based letter of recommendation?

☐ Yes  ☒ No

What are the practical skills and knowledge the student will acquire during the exchange program?

The student will achieve the practical skills to perform an history taking, a physical examination and decision-making process, always focusing on the fact that people’s interpretations of their bodily signs and symptoms are influenced by the individuals’ lived experiences and their group’s cultural healing system. The student will be also trained on health literacy and social determinants of health by the LPO.

Requirements
(Please check all that apply)

Students Eligible for the Exchange:

X Medical Students

☒ Graduated Students (less than 6 months before the beginning of the exchange)

☐ Pre Medical Students (In case of countries where preclinical years are considered a different degree)

☐ Health Sciences Students (Please specify: Public Health, Paramedics etc)
Are there any other requirements than your NMO Exchange Condition?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please mention them below:

**Schedule**

How long will be the exchange period?  
*(Please check both if you accept students for either 4 or 8 weeks)*

☒ 4 weeks ☐ 8 weeks ☐ Other _______________

There are approximately _5__ hours of work per day.

Available months:

☐ January ☐ February ☒ March ☐ April ☐ May ☐ June

☐ July ☐ August ☐ September ☒ October ☐ November ☐ December

How many exchange students can you accept to this internship? 1

At the same time per one exchange period? 1

In total per year? 1

**Special remarks:**

The department requires the health, liability and accident insurance

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By signing this form, the national officer fully accepts to abide to SCOPE and SCOPH regulations.
Thank you for your contribution!