

# Philippine Children's Medical Center Dr. Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital

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### Background

- I am aware that the practice of medicine in the USA affords many resources, especially at an academic center.
- My goal was to learn about tropical diseases I do not encounter regularly and to learn about delivery of healthcare in another system and how resource limitations impact the delivery



### Objectives

- Describe global health in a setting new to me
- Discuss the treatment of tropical infectious diseases and vaccine preventable diseases
- Compare and appreciate medical care in resource limited settings and apply to population in Kansas City.

### Preparation

- CMH Global Health track lectures
- Spoke with multiple CMH residents and mentors
- Republic of the Philippines, >7,600 islands
- Manila is the capital, Quezon City is the most populist
- Catholicism and Islam are the predominant religions
- Spanish, Japanese, & American colonial rule until 1946
- Major intersection of world cultures, trade
- Typhoons, earthquakes, and volcanoes associated with tropical Ring of Fire location
- PCMC is a 200 bed tertiary referral and training facility
- Fabella is a safety net hospital with 100+ births a day.



### Experience

- Divided between inpatient wards, outpatient clinic, and NICU.
- Cared for patients with diseases I had only learned about in my studies, saw routine illness care, and was able to observe challenges and solutions to resource limitations.
- Learned about the training process from the perspective of local residents and fellows



### Reflection

- The physical exam and clinical process are of utmost importance, labs and imaging often secondary
- Resource limitation can be within the healthcare edifice/system or socioeconomic situation of the patient.
- Resources contrast most between indigent patients and "pay" patients.
- Not everything is under your control
- Medical training is arduous everywhere, yet I am extremely grateful for Missouri settings I have learned/trained



### Future Directions

- Joining a community pediatrics group in the KC metro
- Incorporate an inclusive worldview and broad clinical mindset to advocate for and serve immigrant health, underserved communities, and travelers in our increasingly connected world.

