Bangladesh

Mount Sinai-Friendship Site Goals:
1) To improve the health care of a water-locked population in Bangladesh through Mount Sinai’s expertise in 1) research, 2) education, and 3) clinical care
2) To provide medical trainees, faculty and other graduate students an opportunity for research and clinical experiences in an international, low-resource setting

Clinical Elective Information:
Eligibility: Any year of undergraduate or medical training
Duration: Any duration
Specialty Topics: Rotation sites will be tailored to the trainee’s interest
Pre-Travel Orientation: Lectures on Tropical Diseases, Public Health/Epidemiology, etc.
On-Site Orientation: Includes a Bangla language primer session, country introduction, NGO developmental work lecture, Dhaka City Tour, etc.
Required reading with onsite syllabus text books
On-Site Educational Seminars: Lectures given by both the trainee and Friendship staff
See below for a complete set of available onsite resources
Costs: Contact R Patel; Note costs vary by season and by the number of trainees
Rotation Sites (all will be visited by the trainee):
1) Urban Hospitals (Dhaka)
2) Rural Semi-Urgent Care (Floating Hospital)
3) Rural Island Satellite Clinic
4) Microbiology Lab (Floating Hospital)

Research Elective Information: All clinical elective information applies.

Bangladesh Site Research Topics: Please contact Dr. Rupa Patel, MD for more information

Bangladesh Site Description:
Bangladesh (population 155 million people) is located between Myanmar and India. It is the 8th poorest nation with > 40% of the population living < $1 per day. The majority religion is Islam and the country was formed in 1971. (WHO Report 2007)

The global health partner site is Friendship, a local nongovernmental organization (NGO). Friendship serves a nomadic population of 8-15 million people whom reside on migratory river sand “char” islands in rural northern Bangladesh (Districts: Kurigram, Gaibandha, Jamalpur). The population’s access to health care is limited due to the region’s geographical isolation. Friendship provides health care delivery programs through a fleet of ships that consist of 2 floating semi-urgent care centers, over 200 island
outpatient clinics, and 2 ambulances. The floating hospital and island clinic services include treatment of common infections (diarrhea, pneumonia, etc.), prenatal health care (check up, vitamin distribution), surgical services, limited serum laboratory testing, and simple radiographic imaging. The 3 tier health care system also includes local women on each island who are identified as community health workers. The NGO reaches >350,000 residents per year.

**Other Mount Sinai Faculty Mentors:** Joe Truglio, MD MPH, Department of Medicine, Pediatrics

**On-Site Clinical and Research Elective Personnel:**
- Dr. Masud MD MPH, General Physician
- Dr. Naheed MD MPH, General Physician
- Other medical physicians
- Translator/Chaperone/Logistics Coordinator
- Paramedics (by specialty)/Research Assistants
- Microbiology Laboratory Technicians
- Operation Room Assistants
- Ophthalmology Assistant
- Dental Assistant
- Health Educators
- Health Assistant
- Anthropologists/Qualitative Researchers
- Statistician/Database Manager

**Available On-Site Equipment:**
- Computers (Desktop and Laptop)
- Printer
- Scanner
- Fax
- Movie Camera
- Camera
- Voice Recorder
- Internet
- Cellular Phone
- Library: Textbooks, Microbiology Slides
- Microscope

**Accommodations (with A/C):**
- Dhaka: Friendship Guest House (private room with bathroom)
- On-Site: Ship

**Transportation:**
- Dhaka: Private Car with Driver
- Bus
- Hired Boats
- Rickshaws

**Contact Information:**
- Rupa Patel, MD DTMH, Adjunct Instructor, Division of Infectious Diseases
- Email: rappupatel@hotmail.com, rupa.patel@mssm.edu
- Cell: 001 734 634 9650

**Local NGO:** [www.friendship-bd.org](http://www.friendship-bd.org)
If you are interested, please contact R Patel, MD for more information.

Mount Sinai Global Health Center
Bangladesh Site
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