PENN STATE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE GLOBAL HEALTH CENTER
~ MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING / WAIVER AND RELEASE ~
FOR REVIEW AND EXECUTION BY
PSU-COM SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ELECTIVE PARTICIPANTS

1. ASSUMPTION OF RISK: I understand and acknowledge that my participation in the travel elective is wholly voluntary. I further understand and acknowledge that I have voluntarily chosen to study abroad with the Penn State College of Medicine Global Health Center. I am fully aware that there are risks and hazards connected with participation in studying abroad. These risks include, but are not limited to, those associated with ground, air or water transportation, adverse weather conditions, communicable disease, medical care, substandard building construction or maintenance, civil unrest, terrorism, war, and negligent or criminal acts of third parties. I understand that Penn State College of Medicine is not responsible for my safety. I hereby elect to voluntarily participate to study abroad, and voluntarily assume full responsibility for any risks of loss, property damage or personal injury, including death, that may be sustained by me as a result of participating in studying abroad.

2. RELEASE FROM LIABILITY: In consideration for Penn State's sponsorship of the study abroad and for allowing me to participate, I do hereby agree that Penn State, its officers, employees, agents and representatives shall not be liable for any claims, demands or causes of action based upon or arising out of any illness or injury, including death, property loss or damage, deviation, delay or curtailment, however caused, which I may suffer in connection with my enrollment in this international travel elective program.

3. INDEMNIFICATION: I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless Penn State, its officers, employees, agents and representatives, from any and all claims, demands or causes of action and all expenses incidental thereto (including reasonable attorney's fees), based upon or arising out of any personal injury (including death) or property damage or loss caused by or resulting from my acts or omissions during my study abroad.

4. MEDICAL TREATMENT: I understand that Penn State cannot be held responsible for my health, safety, or well-being during participation in the program. I further understand that on rare occasions an emergency may develop which necessitates the administration of medical care, hospitalization or surgery. Therefore, in the event of injury or illness to myself necessitating emergency medical care, I hereby authorize Penn State, by and through its authorized representative(s) or agent(s), to authorize and secure any necessary treatment, including hospital admission and the administration of an anesthesia and surgery. It is understood that such treatment shall be solely at my expense and I agree to reimburse the University for any expenses which it might suffer on account of said injury or illness or treatment thereof. I understand that Penn State makes no representation with respect to the quality or accessibility of medical services and facilities abroad. Appropriate treatment may not be as readily available abroad as in the United States. I voluntarily assume any and all risks associated with medical treatment while a participant in the program. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to make any arrangements necessary for continuation of medical treatments, such as prescription medications or special diet.

5. PROGRAM CANCELLATION AND WITHDRAWAL: I understand that Penn State reserves the right to decline any application or to cancel any program without notice, in which event all monies paid will be refunded in full. Penn State College of Medicine reserves the right to require withdrawal from the program of any participant whose continuation would be detrimental to himself, to others, or to the University. Return passage and any other expenses due to such involuntary withdrawal are the responsibility of the student. I understand that if I voluntarily leave the program for any reason, including illness, I will be responsible for any and all costs associated with my return home and that I will receive a refund of tuition or fees only to the extent allowed pursuant to applicable Penn State policies.

6. CHANGES TO ITINERARY: I understand that circumstances may require Penn State to make changes to the itinerary, possibly without notice, and I agree that Penn State shall not be liable for any loss whatsoever to me by reason of any such cancellation or change. I understand that Penn State is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers that may result due to operation and/or itinerary changes. Any additional expense resulting from a change to the itinerary will be paid by me. Penn State reserves the right to substitute hotels or accommodations or housing of a similar category at any time. I understand that Penn State assumes no responsibility or liability for any cost or inconvenience associated with delays or changes to departure or arrival times, fare changes, problems with hotel, airline or vehicle rental reservations, missed carrier connections, or similar problems related to travel.

7. LEGAL PROBLEMS: I understand and acknowledge that should I experience any sort of legal problems with any foreign nationals or with any government while participating in the study abroad, I will attend to the matter myself and with my own personal funds. While Penn State will endeavor to provide reasonable assistance under such circumstances, Penn State is neither responsible nor obligated to do so.

8. GOVERNING LAW: I agree that this Memorandum of Understanding / Waiver and Release shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Pennsylvania and that Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, shall be the forum for any disputes or lawsuits filed under or incident to this document and/or the Penn State College of Medicine. The terms and provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding / Waiver and Release shall be severable, such that if a court of competent jurisdiction holds any term to be illegal, unenforceable, or in conflict with any relevant law, the validity of the remaining portions shall not be affected thereby.

With the intent to be legally bound, I acknowledge and represent that I have read this Memorandum of Understanding / Waiver and Release, that I understand same, and that I voluntarily sign below in order to evince my agreement with the terms set forth herein, with full knowledge of the educational benefits and possible risks associated with my participation in studying abroad.

_____ _____

Student Signature **Date**

PENN STATE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE GLOBAL HEALTH CENTER
~ CONDUCT STANDARDS AGREEMENT ~

For the safety and overall welfare of all Penn State study abroad participants, the Global Health Center has established the Conduct Standards Agreement. Please remember that as a participant in a Penn State program you are not only representing yourself but you are also an ambassador of the United States and Penn State. Your behavior abroad will influence the impressions that others have of the United States and of Penn State; please keep this in mind during each phase of your study abroad experience.

The following are the conduct standards that each education abroad participant is expected to meet for the duration of the Penn State College of Medicine sponsored International Travel. Students who fail to uphold these standards may be faced with any or all of the following consequences: sanctions imposed by the host institution, Penn State's Office of Judicial Affairs, and the host country's officials, and/or dismissal from the program.

1. Because you are a participant in a program officially sponsored by Penn State, you are expected to maintain behavior that is consistent with Penn State's Code of Conduct (see http://www.sa.psu.edu/ja/procedures.html). Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the program and/or further judicial review at Penn State upon your return.

2. You are subject to the laws of your host institution and the host country. Neither Penn State nor the United States government is in a position to protect you from prosecution.

3. Possession, use or dissemination of illicit drugs is prohibited.

4. Abuse of alcohol is prohibited.

5. Students must attend all classes as well as mandatory field trips and other class activities unless excused by the on-site coordinator or faculty.

6. Respect property of the host institution, host family and other students.

7. Driving laws and customs vary from country to country. Driving while on a Penn State International Elective is strongly discouraged. If you operate a motor vehicle in a foreign country, you will run the risk of violating laws and liability requirements with which you are unfamiliar.

8. Where applicable, students must abide by all household rules that have been established by families and program coordinators. If you feel your living situation is unacceptable, you must first contact your on-site coordinator, so other arrangements can be made on your behalf.

9. Behavior that is deemed detrimental to yourself or others (including, but not limited to, sexual harassment) is cause for dismissal.

10. Though time is often limited in International Travel Electives, it is understood that students will travel on weekends and holidays. When making plans to travel, be conscious of local health and safety conditions and always leave emergency contact information with the on-site staff. This could take the form of a sealed envelope only to be opened in the event of an actual emergency, whether on-site or with your family abroad. Individual travel should not conflict with the regular class schedule of the host institution.

11. Social customs vary from one culture to another. It is expected that all students will endeavor to respect culturally appropriate behaviors and manners. This is especially critical for those students being accommodated with private families.

In the event of an absence from the program due to an emergency situation (i.e., illness or accident) or dismissal, the emergency contacts you have indicated on the Emergency Contact & Health/ Welfare Information form will be notified immediately.

I have read and understood the conduct standards as outlined by the Penn State College of Medicine Global Health Center. I hereby agree to abide by the standards listed above and will accept disciplinary consequences if I fail to do so. I understand that the Global Health Center office will have a copy of this signed document in their records.

_____ _____

Student Signature **Date**

PENN STATE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE GLOBAL HEALTH CENTER
~ INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ADVISORY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER ~

I have voluntarily and freely elected to travel to the country of _____ during (dates) _____ in order to participate in research, course work, or other academic pursuits (hereinafter "study abroad").

I am aware that the United States Department of State has issued a Travel Warning for the country of _____, and that the Department of State recommends that Americans avoid travel to this country. I confirm that I have read and understand this Travel Warning and that despite this; I have made the decision to proceed.

I recognize that there are risks associated with all international travel. I further understand and acknowledge that travel to _____ at this time exposes me (my son, daughter) to risks of a greater likelihood and magnitude than those normally associated with international travel. These risks include those described within the State Department Travel Warning, as well as risks associated with ground, air or water transportation, adverse weather conditions, communicable disease, medical care, substandard building construction or maintenance, civil unrest, terrorism, war, and negligent or criminal acts of third parties. I understand that should any of these adverse circumstances occur the result could include bodily injury, death, or property damage. I recognize that The Pennsylvania State University ("Penn State") cannot guarantee my (my son's, daughter's) safety.

I understand and acknowledge that this study abroad travel is wholly voluntary and that I am not required to travel to this location in order to satisfy any academic requirements of Penn State. I hereby voluntarily assume full responsibility for any loss, property damage or personal injury, including death that may be sustained by me (my son, daughter) as a result of this study abroad. I hereby agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless Penn State, its officers, employees, agents and representatives, from any and all claims, demands or causes of action, and all expenses incidental thereto (including attorney's fees), based upon or arising out of any loss, property damage or personal injury, including death, caused by or resulting in any way from study abroad.

With the intent to be legally bound, I acknowledge and represent that I have read this Memorandum of Understanding / Waiver and Release, that I understand same, and that I voluntarily sign below in order to demonstrate my agreement with the terms set forth herein, with full knowledge of the possible risks associated with study abroad.

_____	_____
Participant's Name (Please print or type)	Student ID Number
_____	_____
Signature of Student Participant	Date
_____	_____
Witness of Student's Signature	Date
_____	
Name of Witness (Please print or type)	

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GUIDELINES FOR PREMEDICAL AND MEDICAL STUDENTS PROVIDING PATIENT CARE DURING CLINICAL EXPERIENCES ABROAD

Acquiring exposure to a variety of health-related clinical settings is a vital part of premedical and medical student preparation. Many students are now taking advantage of opportunities to gain clinical experiences abroad, where regulations governing the procedures that students can perform on patients are often less stringent and well defined than in the United States and Canada. Additionally, existing local regulations may not be uniformly or fully enforced. While many students have had beneficial experiences through involvement in patient care activities abroad, and services have been provided to people in need, the potential for harm and abuse in these situations cannot be ignored. Participation of inadequately educated and untrained students in these situations can have negative consequences including:

- Harm done to the patient. Everyone's goal is to always help those in need; the first step in that direction must be to avoid doing any harm. As a student, it may be difficult to know what might cause harm, so you must carefully avoid situations where there is any possibility that you might injure someone or cause other harm.

- Physical harm to yourself. Engaging in any clinical practice without sufficient training and protection can result in direct harm to you, as well as to the patient. Further, sponsoring organizations may not have in place plans to assist you if you contract an illness and/or are injured.

- Legal issues with local authorities. Even if a local health care provider is supervising your interactions with patients or says that it is acceptable for you to perform a procedure, violation of local laws may still be a punishable offense.

- Putting acceptance to medical school and residency training programs at risk. Many pre-medical students believe that the more in-depth clinical experience they have, the stronger their applications will be. However, taking on tasks that are beyond your training could make you look unethical, unknowledgeable about the health professions, irresponsible to admission committees, and may diminish or eliminate your chance for acceptance into medical school. Similarly, medical students who perform procedures beyond their training may negatively impact their chances of matching in residency programs.

- The potential for being involved with a fraudulent company. There are companies that will, for a fee, help place you in a foreign clinic. Be aware that some of these companies are in the business of making money first, and they may not be ethically sound. Check out these companies very carefully before signing any contracts. If any agency is over-promising and suggests that you will actually practice medicine while abroad, rather than simply observe or shadow, you should have serious reservations about working with this agency.

Premedical and Medical students considering participating in an international medical service experience should review the following:

- The primary purpose of a student clinical experience is observation, not hands-on treatment. You are there to learn, not to treat.

- Always keep the welfare of the patient foremost in your mind, not the perceived opportunity for proving yourself. Ask yourself how you would feel if you were in the place of a patient and a person with limited skills and preparation was about to perform a procedure on you. If this thought makes you feel uncomfortable, it is probably not an appropriate task for you to be doing. Recognizing patient autonomy is one of the core values of medical ethics; it is particularly important to honor in communities with limited resources, where all patients must be given the choice whether or not to have trainees involved in their care.

• Every act of service involves the building of a cultural bridge. Students should bring knowledge of the history and culture of the community they will serve, respect for cultural differences, a listening and learning attitude, and behaviors that will enable ethical and effective service. Health care professionals in the country being served will likely have a deep understanding of local health care issues, resources and challenges. Be sensitive to the concerns of the local health care team and seek to understand the perspective of the patients you are serving.

• It is appropriate for students to provide preventive health education and to support the health care team by assisting in the provision of health treatment after receiving adequate instruction. However, students should never engage in any unsupervised activity that is considered the practice of medicine including, but not limited to: diagnosing diseases, administering narcotics, performing surgical procedures, suturing or other tasks generally reserved for the trained health professional.

• There will always be disparities in what individual students are prepared and trained to do. Some students (e.g., those with previous EMT training) will be better prepared to take on more advanced patient care than others. However, just because a peer has been able to successfully perform a particular task does not mean that you are also ready to undertake the same task. Understand and perform within your limitations.

• Students should be aware that it is not necessary to travel abroad to serve those in need. There are many opportunities to help the disadvantaged and other underserved groups in the U.S. There are likely worthwhile volunteer opportunities in your own community, with many more around the country. Also, be mindful that while appropriate experience in other countries can be valuable and may be viewed as complementary, if you plan to practice in the U.S, it is particularly important to understand U.S. healthcare.

Approved by the AAMC GSA Steering Committee on February 25, 2011

Adapted with permission from policies developed at: Hendrix College, Conway, AR by Mark Sutherland, Ph.D., Professor of Biology; Stanford University's Haas Center for Public Service (http://studentaffairs.stanford.edu/haas/principles/document), and the American Dental Education Association.

I have read these guidelines as provided by the AAMC.

_____ _____

Student Signature Date

PENNSTATE HERSHEY
College of Medicine