RUTGERS HEALTH
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

BROADENING HORIZONS: A GLOBAL HEALTH JOURNEY

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Introduction: Brazil has a public universal health system that can mainly diagnose and treat patients without monetary compensation, whereas in the United States, patients need medical security to access its health system.

Objective: This travelog documents a medical student's experience transitioning from a public health system with limited resources to a private one, highlighting cultural differences.



Methods/Approach: Comparing healthcare resources, research investment, and doctor-patient relations between limited and abundant settings, based on a Brazilian medical student's month-long experience in the United States.

Key experiences and insights: Although culturally different, both settings have a similar doctor-patient relationship. Alternatively, investment in research development is much more emphasized in the United States, and it's much more applicable in natural medical settings considering the medical, financial, and pharmacological resources disposed of.

Impact on Personal and Professional Growth: Encountering a completely different cultural setting, on a more than other health system, is challenging, and this experience opens doors and shifts perspectives on global health. There is, however, a need to connect these two worlds, addressing health disparities and how the lack of one can inspire the other and the excesses of the other be available to the first.

Conclusion: Seeing how medicine is done in an unlimited resources setting instead of a limited one broadens how one can experience it. This travelogue shows the importance of cross-cultural experiences in understanding health disparities better and inspiring future solutions to health access in both medical systems.



