From Observation to Learning: Pediatric Care at Med Uni Graz Hospital (Graz, Austria)

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Program Overview

Multidisciplinary Education Course in Pediatric Medicine

- Shadowing various specialties in the morning
- Lecture 2:30 PM – 4 PM Monday through Thursday

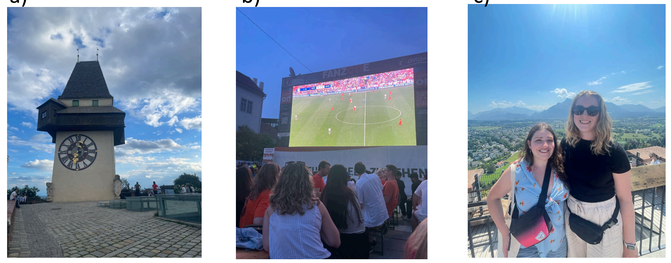
Abi's favorite lecture of the series:

- "Children with Vascular Anomalies: Diagnosis and Management" by the Department of Pediatric and Adolescent Surgery because she had never learned about vascular anomalies before and is excited to apply this knowledge in her future pediatric rotation.

Alex's favorite lecture of the series:

- "Pediatric Hand Surgery" by the Department of Pediatric and Adolescent Surgery because she enjoyed learning about how to isolate the source of injury via physically manipulating the hand and how her musculoskeletal system knowledge base applies in a clinical setting.

a) b) c)



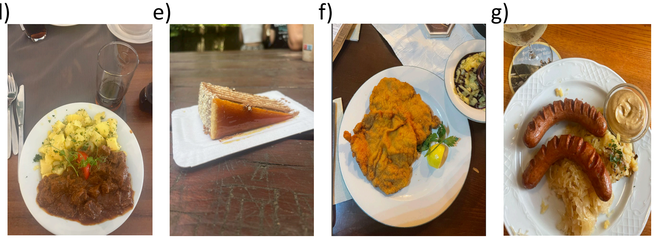
a) Schlossberg, b) Euros cup watch party, c) View from Salzburg fortress

U.S.A. versus Austria Pediatric Health Statistics

Table 1: Comparison of pediatric and vaccine health statistics between Austria and the United States of America.

Health Statistics	Austria	United States of America
Under Five Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	3.2	6.25
Infant Mortality Rate	2.62	5.35
Percentage of individuals who received the 1st dose of the DTP containing vaccine (per 1,000 live births)	91%	98%
Percentage of Individuals who received the 1st dose of the Measles containing vaccine	95%	92%

d) e) f) g)



d) Hungarian Beef Ghoulash, e) Dobos Torte, f) Schnitzel, g) Viener Sausages with Sauer Kraut

Travel Highlights

Travel Highlights:

- We did walking tours of each city we traveled to! We really enjoyed learning about each place by foot.
- Graz, Austria: Schlossberg, Zotter Chocolate Factory, Styrian Wineries, Hans Zimmer Live at Kasemattenbühne, Euros cup outdoor watch party at Karmellita Platz, farmer's market and happy hour at Kaiser Josef Platz
- Vienna, Austria: Schönbrunn Palace, Austria National Library, Weiner Schnitzel, Belvedere Art Museum, climbed 343 steps to the top of St. Stephen's Cathedral South Tower
- Salzburg, Austria: Fortress Hohensalzburg, Sound of Music Abbey, Flea Market by the Salzach River
- Budapest, Hungary: Parliament building, Fisherman's Bastion, Jewish Quarter, Danube River boat tour, tried Langoss and Hungarian Beef Goulash



Practicing ultrasound skills in the Radiology Department.



Matthias Fountain – a stop on the Buda Castle walking tour.



Waiting for afternoon lecture to begin!



Train back to Graz!

Clinical Experiences

Abi's Rotations: General Pediatrics, Pulmonology & Allergology, Hematology & Oncology, Radiology

- A pivotal moment in Abi's clinical rotations was serving as an interpreter for a Ukrainian refugee diagnosed with Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia and his mother. It was an honor to actively contribute to the care of this patient, especially given the trauma they endured fleeing a war-torn country. Abi was able to clearly explain the next steps in treatment to the family and later observed the patient's lumbar puncture. This experience provided valuable insight into the unique challenges of treating patients with traumatic backgrounds, deepening her understanding of compassionate, trauma-informed care.

Alex's Rotations: Infectious Disease, Plastic Surgery, Pulmonology & Allergology, Hematology & Oncology

- A highlight of Alex's clinical rotations was meeting "Alana," a 6 year old hematology and oncology patient with Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia. On rounds, Alana learned that Alex spoke English and then eagerly demonstrated her ability to count to 25 in English and sang her favorite song, a "Do Re Mi" remix. Alana had such strength in her lumbar puncture treatment, casually asking the doctor, "Is this the part when I get sleepy?" while handing over the tube from her port. Alana and the other patients radiated a positivity and hope as they dealt with grueling treatments, which was incredibly inspiring.

References

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References

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