Patient Care Within The Spanish Health Care System: Reflections from a Summer Clinical Experience in Zaragoza, Spain



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Background: Zaragoza, Spain

Population: ~48 million Spain[2], ~987,763 Zaragoza[1] **| Life Expectancy:** 82.7 years[2] **| Annual Income:** $31,000[3]

Healthcare System:

- Residents receive care through primary care centers and regional hospitals
- Each patient has a family physician who provides continuous, comprehensive care and coordinates referrals



Goals:

- Observe Spain's healthcare organization and patient care delivery
- Develop cultural and clinical competence through immersive experiences
- Examine how an international healthcare system supports continuity and accessibility

Summary of Trip: 4-week shadowing program and 1 week of dedicated research

Observed: Family Medicine, Rural Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, Neurology, Dermatology, and Surgery

Conclusion: **The Spanish health care model provided us with cultural awareness and appreciation for a universal health care model, while also growing our interest in global health and health systems research.**



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Acknowledgement of Funding: Sukumar and Anne Nagendran c/o Rutgers University Foundation, Department of Donor Relations

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