



Resident Volunteer “Job Description”

Most residents usually spend the bulk of their time in the IPD to help ease the burden of the Cambodian IPD doctors. However, now that the Cambodian staffing is improved, you will find that your rotation will be more or less part-time. You will also find that you will have to be proactive in finding tasks for yourself since all of the staff is quite busy with hospital duties. **If you think you will require constant supervision or be unable to be proactive, this site will probably not be a good fit for you.**

Initially, you will likely be assigned to take care of the LAU patients and write notes on them each day. You can come in around 8am-8:30am for this. When finished with LAU, you can then report to the Chief of IPD to see if you can help with the IPD patients. You may be asked to help with new admissions and an IPD nurse can serve as your interpreter. Keep in mind that the nurses are quite busy and so keep your histories focused rather than trying to do a complete history. A Cambodian doctor can fill in any history gaps and can do any patient/family education later. If IPD does not need extra help, you can ask the Chief of ICU/ER if help is needed in ER or ICU. You may also work in the OPD either sitting with and precepting a junior doctor or seeing patients on your own with an interpreter. But since OPD is usually quite busy and since volunteers sitting with junior doctors can slow them down, limit OPD to no more than 2-3 half-days per week. In general, Thurs-Friday tend to be less busy in OPD than Monday-Tuesday.

Resident volunteers may occasionally be put into the work schedule in which case you will likely be assigned to IPD or ICU/ER for that day. Otherwise you can choose where you would like to work; keeping in mind that too many volunteers in one department can end up burdening that department. Your typical work day starts at 8am-ish with a 2-hour lunch break (noon-2pm). You will not be asked to do overnight call and you will get at least 2 days off in a row each week. Since IPD & ICU/ER are short-staffed on weekends, you may be asked to take 2 weekdays off and help out on the weekends.

At 2:00pm weekdays, teaching rounds begin in the ICU at which time the inpatient team rounds on all ICU & ER and selected IPD patients. Resident volunteers are welcome to join these teaching rounds. During some months when there are many volunteers at AHC, we may limit the number of volunteers allowed on teaching rounds each day.

From 4:00pm-5:00pm is the lecture series for the junior doctors. Resident volunteers are asked to cover the OPD, IPD, or ER during this time so that all junior doctors may attend this mandatory part of their medical education curriculum. If OPD/IPD/ER have adequate staff available to cover, then you are welcome to attend the 4pm lecture. There are also CME lectures every Friday at noon and free lunch is provided. Occasionally, resident volunteers are asked to give a lecture or two. This will usually be arranged prior to your visit, either by Dr. Leakhena or Dr. Varun.

Lastly, there are other activities in addition to the “typical day” activities above; such as helping with research or some other academic project, spending time with the pediatric surgeons in the OT, looking at interesting blood smears in the lab, and going on a Home Care visit. The volunteer coordinator can help in arranging a Home Care visit.

Please contact Dr. Varun Kumar if there are any problems during your rotation or if an evaluation needs to be filled out at the end of your rotation.