Western Medicine in Taiwan
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TAIWAN
• Formerly known as the Republic of China, also known as Formosa
• Area: 35,980 km² (NJ: 22,608 km²)
• Population: 23 million
• Language spoken: Mandarin (official), Taiwanese, Hakka
• Religions: Buddhism, Daoism, Christianity
• Infant mortality rate: 5.18/1000 live births
• Life expectancy at birth: 78.32 years
• GDP per capita (PPP): $35,700
• Climate: tropical, marine

TAIPEI (7/25-7/29)
• Literally “Northern Taiwan”
• Capital of Taiwan and the largest city
• Area: 272 km² (city proper)
• Population: 2.6 million
• Taipei 101 (2nd tallest building in the world)
• National Palace Museum

REASONS/GOALS FOR VISIT
• Learn about how western medicine is practiced in Taiwan
• Learn about Taiwan’s National Health Insurance system
• Learn about Tzu Chi’s way of dealing with hospice and long-term care
• Improve Chinese language skills
• Cultural experience

HUALIEN PROGRAM DETAILS
• One week in Hualien shadowing doctors in the family medicine department
• Shadowed nurses making home visits
• Participated in the mobile unit which provided healthcare to rural communities in the mountainside
• Learned about the Silent Mentor Program
• Learned about Tzu Chi’s principles, values, and charitable works around the world

HUALIEN (7/18-7/22)
• Literally “Flower Lotus”
• Located in eastern Taiwan
• Suburban feel
• Area: 4629 km²
• Population: 0.3 million
• Local specialty: mochi
• Taroko National Park

TZU CHI UNIVERSITY
• Founded by Tzu Chi Foundation which is a Buddhist international humanitarian organization led by Dharma Master Cheng Yen
• Emphasizes compassionate care and respect for all life

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NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY
• Top university of Taiwan
• State-of-the –art medical equipment, research and technology

TAIPEI PROGRAM DETAILS
• One week in Taipei shadowing doctors in a variety of specialties in the flagship hospital of Taiwan
• Visited the Bureau of National Health Insurance
• Visited the Minimally Invasive Surgery Training Center