

¡Medicina en Jujuy!

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Introduction

•One-month experience in San Salvador de Jujuy rotating through San Roque Hospital and a nearby community clinic (El Chingo)

Background Information

- 3.16 physicians/1,000 population (2004)
 - 4.5 beds/1,000 population (2010)
 - Infant mortality rate: 10.24 deaths/1,000 live births
 - Healthcare expenditures: 8.1% of GDP (2010)
 - Total population: 41,087,000
 - Most common cause of death: cardiovascular disease
- <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ar.html>
<http://www.who.int/countries/arg/en/>

A



B



Figure 1 A) San Salvador de Jujuy is located in the northernmost part of Argentina; B) Las Sietes Colores (“7 Colors” mountain)
Map from: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jujuy_Province



Figure 2 San Roque Hospital, San Salvador de Jujuy

Objectives

- Improve Spanish-speaking skills particularly in the medical setting
- Enhance physical exam skills
- Compare/contrast US with Argentinian healthcare
- Study pathology not commonly seen in the US, specifically infectious diseases
- Establish an intellectual partnership with students, residents, and attendings in another country



Figure 3 A) *Trypanosoma cruzi*, transmitted by Triatominae or “kissing bugs”; B) *Plasmodium* transmitted by the *Anopheles* mosquito

<http://en.wikipedia.org>
http://www.usnews.com/pubdbimages/image/31523/Kissing_Bug_120601_1415x276.jpg
<http://www.flymoeli.ws/>

Clinical Experiences

- Infectious diseases encountered:
 - Chagas disease
 - Malaria
 - Dengue Fever
 - Cutaneous leishmaniasis
 - Miliary tuberculosis
 - Hanta virus
- Other common medical conditions:
 - Congestive heart failure
 - Cirrhosis
 - Cellulitis
 - Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
 - Metabolic syndrome: diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia
- Emphasis on the physical exam:
 - Few lab studies available on-site
 - Imaging studies relatively nonexistent
 - Systematic approach of the exam: observation, percussion, palpation and auscultation
- Teaching Hospital Setting:
 - Daily bedside rounds
 - Biweekly case study discussions
 - Residents see 2-3 patients per day
- Public versus Private Hospitals:
 - Private hospitals only for those with excellent insurance
 - Superior educational experience for residents/students in public hospitals
- San Roque Hospital:
 - High nurse to patient ratio (6 to 8:1)
 - Subspecialists available on designated weekdays
 - Intensivists available daily in a 4 bed ICU
 - Designated OB/GYN and internal medicine wards (divided into male and female wings)
- Outpatient clinics:
 - Subspecialist clinics only at the hospital in the city center
 - Primary care clinics present in surrounding neighborhoods

Cultural Experiences:

- Lived in a small cabana in the community
- Experienced the traditions of Dia de Las Madres
- Participated in comparsa celebrations during Carnival
- Participated in hacado meals with residents of Jujuy
- Took Argentina cooking classes
- Visited towns of Pumamarca, Humahuaca, Salta, Tilcara, and Cafayate



Figure 4 Residents and students from San Roque with Rich LeBano on the left; Krysta Contino and Lauren Nigro with nurse during the hospital's celebration of Dia de Las Madres, Carnival.

Summary

Our experience in San Salvador de Jujuy was an excellent learning opportunity. We were able to obtain exceptional hands-on clinical experience and learn to treat many conditions rarely seen in the United States, which is particularly important in the era of immigration. Moreover, in spending the majority of our time, both at the hospital and at home, with natives of Jujuy, we were able to truly experience life in the Bolivian-bordering province

Conclusions

This was truly the educational and cultural experience of a lifetime and is highly recommended to anyone wishing to improve their Spanish-speaking and physical exam skills, practice medicine without the diagnostic studies to which we have become accustomed in the US, and experience a unique South American culture.

Much appreciation to the Association of Family and Friends and the hospitality of our hosts in Argentina for making this experience possible.