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An Unexpected Global Health Experience in Manila

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Background

 As a future neonatologist, Manila offered clinical NICU experience in a variety of different settings.

Objective

- Learn about health care, specifically neonatology, in an international setting
- Provide NICU care in a resource-limited setting while comparing and contrasting the care to a resource-sufficient setting
- Reflect upon medical care (pros and cons) in a resource-sufficient setting
- Meet and get to know the NICU attendings, fellows, and residents
- Learn about Filipino culture





Preparation

- Global health lectures, discussions, and simulations
- Completed modules about tropical diseases
- Learn about differences in healthcare models, cultural humility, and safety while abroad
- Become knowledgeable about child morbidity and mortality in resource-limited settings
- Met with Dr. Manimtim, global health mentor

Experience

- Spent one week in the NICU at Dr. Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital
- Taal volcano erupted nearby forcing evacuation given the uncertain future of the situation





Reflection

- Grateful for previous simulations and discussions regarding safety while abroad
- Preparedness with Medjet Horizon evacuation services
- Ability to recognize when a global health
 - experience is burdensome on the healthcare system
- Importance of flexibility while abroad
- Appreciation for the experience as a whole



Future Directions

- Fellowship in Neonatology
 - Hope to return to Manila during my fellow ship
- Incorporate Global Health into my career in the future
- Be involved in advocacy projects and local global health experiences



