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Philippines Global Health

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Philippines Global Health

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Background

- Philippines General Hospital (PGH) and Fabella Hospital are two of the main hospitals that serve underserved populations in Manila
- These hospitals provide specialty care including pediatric cardiology and neonatology
- As someone who will be doing specialty care in the future, I was interested in seeing how pediatric cardiology and neonatology is practiced in these underserved locations.

Preparation

- Up to date on vaccines
- Making contacts with residents and attendings
- Learning about Manila including the patient population and locations around the hospital

Experience



- During my month, I worked with cardiologists, intensivists, and neonatologists
- I observed management of congenital heart disease including imaging studies, catheterization procedures, and post surgical management



Reflection

- My global health rotation exposed me to the intricacies of taking care of children with congenital heart disease in the Philippines
- Often the most challenging part of their care is a lack of resources and surgeons to repair their cardiac lesions
- Many families need to travel a very long distance to find affordable care for these children
- Philippines General Hospital has many dedicated pediatric cardiologists who work tirelessly to care for these children despite these limited resources

Future Directions

- I will be pursuing a Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship at Phoenix Children's
- I hope to continue to work with global health initiatives to help provide care of children with congenital heart disease