

## Clinical clerkship in Hawaii < St.Luke's clinic in Hawaii >

I have wanted to study abroad while I am a university student if I am fortunate enough to have an opportunity. I have been curious of studying American medical system and I wanted to know the differences between American medicine and Japanese medicine by observing the way of consulting patients in fact.

All through this, first I want to say thank you to all the people who helped me in various ways. Especially, Dr. Kobayashi, Dr. Kawano and Ms. Miwa, I couldn't accomplish this without your help.

I went to St. Luke's clinic in Hawaii for my rotation. In this clinic, Dr. Kobayashi, Dr. Ogawa, Dr. Nagashima and all other staffs in clinic helped me and taught me many things. I really appreciate you all. This clinic is private practice with many doctors whose specialities are various, such as Internal Medicine, Surgery, Gynecology, Psychosomatic Medicine. Patients' races are Japanese, Japanese immigrants, and also many other races like American, Indian and so on. So they have many different background.

Through this clinical rotation, I learned a lot of knowledge needed to take a national exam for the license to practice medicine and American medical system which includes Medicare and also other American insurance systems. And they also gave me a chance to learn medical techniques.

Every morning, Dr. Kobayashi gave us a lecture of clinical topics, and I watched lectures online of ACP. In lectures of ACP, teachers talk about medical knowledge, of course in English. When I first listened to them, I felt them a little bit difficult for me, but as I listened to it for many times, I could understand them, and now I believe listening to those lectures were really useful.

And about medical techniques I learned there, I was given chances of vaccinating university students actually for preventing tuberculosis, and I practiced putting a patient on a drip, collecting blood samples and cleaning sections of cysts. It was really fun to learn those things. During Gynecology rotation, I observed medical examinations of cervical cancer and STD tests which are free in Hawaii state.



On the third floor of the same building, there is a radiology clinic which cooperates with St.Luke's clinic. There I was given a lecture of various cases with CT, MRI, X-ray in English. The doctor who taught us was very kind and patient, so the lecture was intelligible and very interesting.



On Thursday Evening, I went to a class of learning how to give a good case presentation in Kuakini hospital. The teacher, Dr. Little is a very dedicated teacher and she is a warm and kind person. It was very short time, but she taught me correct pronunciation and the better way of giving presentation to others, so I really spent a wonderful and meaningful time in this class.



On Friday Morning, I went to listen to a lecture for doctors and medical students in Queen's hospital. The lecture I listened to was about 'when we should stop treating patients with coma'. In the lecture, many cases were quoted, sometimes with humor. And so it was a really interesting and unforgettable lecture.



When I was free, Dr. Ogawa took me to JABSOM(John A. Burns School of Medicine), and he showed me around there. When I saw medical students studying very hard in the library, it motivated me to study harder.



On weekends, I enjoyed my free time with my friends. We went swimming to Waikiki beach, or North Shore. And also we went on a hike to many places. I could refresh myself.

Through this experience, I think I'm able to see things from another point of view. I believe this experience helps me through my life as a medical student, also as a person.



