



## **2015 Internship Quality Improvement Patient Care Supportive Initiatives**

**Organization:** Dana Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center

**Address:** 450 Brookline Avenue (Longwood Medical Area), Boston, MA 02215-5450

**Website:** <http://www.danafarberbostonchildrens.org/globalhealth>

The Global Health Initiative (GHI) at Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center (DF/BC) is an interdisciplinary program that focuses on countries with limited resources, and brings together faculty, fellows, nurses, social workers, psychologists, health educators, and managers to improve outcomes for children. We are working to establish centers of excellence in pediatric hematology and oncology in the developing world, and we are training the next generation of leaders. Our *mission* is to improve the lives and enhance the care of children with cancer and blood disorders worldwide. All GHI activities include ongoing efforts to establish twinning partnerships with sites in low and middle income countries and are centered around three objectives: Program building (twinning), Education and Research. At present, GHI operates a variety of projects in Africa, Asia, Central and South America, the Middle East and the Caucasus Region.

One of the ongoing projects is a twinning and education collaboration with Children's Cancer Hospital Egypt 57357 in Cairo, Egypt. CCHC 57357 is one of the top pediatric oncology providers in Africa and the Middle East region. The hospital opened its doors in July 2007, after raising 1 billion EGP (US\$167 Million) in private donations. It is the largest freestanding pediatric cancer hospital in the world, is completely sustained through donations, and all care is fully charitable and free of charge. For more information, please visit [www.57357.com](http://www.57357.com).

### **INTERNSHIP SUMMARY**

Primary Site: Dana Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center, Boston, MA

Foreign Site: Children's Cancer Hospital Egypt 57357, Cairo, Egypt

The internship will be a team project with 2-3 students who will have the opportunity to apply global public health skills to a realistic and vital issue on the quality of care of children with cancer in Egypt. It will focus on a quality improvement projects to examine how use of the Central Venous Access Device (CVAD), nasogastric (NG) tubes and gastrostomy (G) tubes impact pediatric oncology patient outcomes. At present, a very small percent of hospitalized children (about 7%) are using a CVAD which results in a number of negative consequences such as pain, infections, burns, discomfort, and others. The goal is for all eligible new patients (approximately



1900 per year) at CCHE 57357 to have a CVAD placed to minimize extravasations, increase patient satisfaction and improve outcomes. The goal is for eligible patients meeting criteria to have NG or G tubes placed is to maintain body weight, and the percentage of lean body mass during chemotherapy and radiation treatments for cancer. The internship includes a one or two- week-long site visit to CCHE 57357 (CCHE 57357 will assume the costs for the site visit: airfare, housing and \$500 stipend).

The students will work closely with the GHI Manager and Nurse Director at DF/BC to:

- Select the appropriate QI methodology (for example DMAIC) and apply all steps throughout the project
- Review data, guidelines and policies from Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Boston Children's Hospital to apply them to CCHE 57357
- Collect and analyze data (phase I, II, III)
- Document all the reasons (institutional, cultural, training, financial, etc) that CVADs are not being utilized
- Conduct impact assessment on patient outcomes (survival and infections)
- Specify indicators and instruments for outcomes
- Develop graphic illustrations such as process map, logic model, etc
- Compile a basic library of resources (journal articles, manuals, textbooks, etc)
- Suggest recommendations for next steps

The students are expected to:

- Participate in weekly meetings with the Supervisor. Prepare a weekly agenda for the meetings to include progress, deliverables, questions, and ideas
- Participate in meetings with other GHI members and foreign site collaborators
- Create and maintain a shared folder in DropBox with documents related to the project
- Maintain the security and confidentiality of all materials, data, and communication
- Spend 1-2 weeks on site at CCHE 57357 in May 2016

Deliverables:

1. Manuscript
2. Poster
3. Executive summary report
4. Presentation to the GHI group

Areas covered:

- Quality Improvement
- Patient Safety
- Patient Satisfaction
- Clinical Operations
- Pediatric and Nursing Oncology
- Research Methods
- Global Health





The foreign site preceptor (CCHE 57357) will:

- Participate in Skype calls with GHI Manager and students
- Facilitate access to files and data for students
- Host student during 1-2 weeks in May 2016; provide work space and administrative support
- Introduce students to hospital leadership

### Timeline

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| January – April 2016 | Collection of data<br>Skype meetings with foreign site                     |
| May 2016             | On-site visit to CCHE 57357 for observation and wrap-up of data collection |
| <i>Summer 2016</i>   |  |
| June – July 2016     | Data analysis  |
| August 2016          | Deliverables   |

### MINIMUM SKILLS REQUIRED

- Education:** Bachelors Degree  
1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year graduate student in Global Health, Health Policy & Management, Epidemiology, Biostatistics
- Languages:** English. Arabic preferred.
- Computers:** Proficiency in MS software applications including MS Outlook, Word, Excel and PowerPoint as well as Internet and database applications.
- Other:** EndNote or Zotero or RefWorks, PubMed, Countway Library resources, and online research

### Additional Information

- Professional Experience:** Experience in healthcare, nonprofits or related field is beneficial
- Skills and Attributes:**
- Knowledge of medical terminology and clinical procedures is beneficial
  - Graphic design interest or skills desirable
  - Ability to maintain confidentiality regarding job assignments and sensitive issues
  - Ability to work with internal and external individuals from different disciplines and different levels of training
  - Strong written and verbal communications skills
  - Self-motivated requiring little to no supervision with the ability to work effectively in a team environment
  - Arabic preferred.

### INTERNSHIP DETAILS:

- Duration:** Spring 2016 Semester and Summer 2016 Semester, if student on campus





**Hours:** 10-15 hours per week

**Location:** Desk space and access to DF/BC is provided. There will be regular check-in weekly meetings with the Supervisor and GHI team members, as needed, as well as constant email communication with the Supervisor.

**Patient Contact:** None

**Clearance:** Interns are required to be on-boarded and cleared through the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Human Resources and Occupational Health, and attend a day-long orientation on their first day.

**APPLICATION DETAILS:**

**To apply:** Please email resume and cover letter to Irini Albanti, MPH, MA at [Irini\\_Albanti@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:Irini_Albanti@dfci.harvard.edu).

**Application deadlines:** January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 for Spring 2016 Semester  
April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 for Summer 2016 Semester