

**Name:** Dan Ting

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**Specialty:** Internal Medicine

**Country:** Malaysia

**Location:** Sarawak General Hospital

**Rural/Urban:** Urban

**Hospital or non-hospital placement:** Hospital

**Type of placement:** Pre-clerkship

**Date:** July 4 – July 29, 2011

**Project title:**

**Organization:** Sarawak General Hospital

**Website:** <http://jksarawak.moh.gov.my/en/>

**Main language spoken:** English

**Other language(s):** Malay & Mandarin

**Project description:** Essentially a rotating observership, where I spent time with different doctors in different specialties.

**Student experience description:** I felt clinically unprepared as a 1st year medical student, as the other students had far more clinical experience/exposure. I was able to get a good sense of the culture of medicine there. The elective was pretty unstructured so it was up to me to get value out of the placement. Language (Malay) was occasionally a problem but there were usually bilingual people around to ask.

**Placement safety:** Yes. Only real threat was petty crime, and one just had to be careful with valuables.

**Educational experience (out of 10):** 4

**Social/cultural experience (out of 10):** 10

**Does the organization have any religious affiliations?** No

**At any point did you feel expected to participate in religious activity?** No

**Program fee:** \$50

**Dress code:** Business casual, a bit more formal than in Canada. (Scrubs in the wards would be unacceptable.) Conservative for women.

**Accommodation:** There was a house for renting to medical students across the street from the hospital. Other students stayed in downtown hostels.

**Accommodation cost:** \$250/month

**Helpful hints:** Would advise going after 2nd year. If you go during the summer there will be many UK medical students there (almost all entering their final year), so you won't be the only foreign student. There are many (awesome) things to do outside of the clinic during your spare time.

**Questions you are glad to have asked before leaving on placement:** What sorts of security/safety issues might I be expected to encounter in Malaysia? What kind of dress is expected in the hospitals? What activities are there to do outside of the clinic?

**Questions you WISHED you asked before leaving on placement:** What NGOs are present in Malaysia and how might I be involved in my time there? Other than Queen's, what sorts of funding opportunities are there for global health placements? What kinds of things can I do non-medically to make a positive impact on the community?

**Overall, would you recommend this placement for future students? Yes**