Introduction

Every year, hundreds of Practicing Orthopedic Surgeons and Orthopedic trainees participate in international rotations at practices in Lower-and-Middle-Income Countries, either on a volunteer basis or as a part of a residency program rotation. The benefits of an international rotation on a physician’s career is well known, and as a result these international programs have been growing in popularity and scope over recent years. Despite this, there is limited information on the actual impact that these visiting doctors have on the practices who host them, particularly in the field of Orthopedics.

This IRB approved survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete. Your participation is vital in assessing how these international experiences may be improved. In partnership with Health Volunteers Overseas, we hope to use the data gathered to learn about how international orthopedic rotations may be improved in terms of both continuing education and patient care. More information about Health Volunteers Overseas and the work they do may be found at hvousa.org.

Your responses will be completely confidential, with no personal identifiers involved unless you choose to participate in an optional online interview to discuss your international experience.

Please make sure you review the Informed Consent document linked to in the email you received, before proceeding.

If you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to reach out. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,
1. I have read or had read to me and understand the informed consent document. I agree to all the terms and consent to be a part of this study. (A link to the informed consent form was included in the original email you received linking to this survey). *

- Yes
- No
2. Please confirm whether you would like to participate in the survey? *
   - Yes, I wish to participate in the survey
   - No, I do not wish to participate in the survey

Respondent Information

3. Are you a practicing Orthopedic surgeon or a trainee?
   - Practicing Orthopedic surgeon
   - Orthopedic trainee (Resident/Fellow)

4. What is your primary practice setting?
   - Private Practice
   - Academic
   - Hospital employed
   - Retired
   - Not applicable
   - Other - Write In
5. Do you have a primary focus of interest within the field of orthopedics? (Check all that apply)

- General Orthopedics
- Adult Reconstruction
- Foot and ankle
- Hand and upper extremity
- Musculoskeletal tumors
- Pediatric Orthopedics
- Spine
- Sports
- Trauma
- Still undecided

- Other - Write In

6. Typically, how long is the duration of your stay when you volunteer at an international orthopedic practice?

- One week or less
- 2-3 weeks
- 4-5 weeks
- 6-8 weeks
- None of the above
7. How many international healthcare volunteer experiences in resource challenged environments have you had over the past 5 years, either through HVO or another organization? (Please enter an exact number)

8. Are you the project director for an HVO project?
   - Yes
   - No
9. Please select the countries where you have volunteered (Select all that apply):

Belize
Bhutan
Bolivia
Cambodia
Cameroon
Costa Rica
Ethiopia
Ghana
Guatemala
Haiti
Honduras
India
Indonesia
Kenya
Laos
Malawi
Moldova
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nepal
Nicaragua
Paraguay
People's Republic of China
Peru
Philippines
Rwanda
St. Lucia
Suriname
Tanzania
Uganda
Vietnam

Volunteer Assessment
10. On a scale **STRONGLY DISAGREE** to **STRONGLY AGREE**, please rate the following statements as they generally apply to your volunteer activities with HVO in low-resource country(s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>During my visit(s) I was prepared to provide appropriate patient care, including but not limited to cases I rarely see at my home practice.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients seemed comfortable being seen by orthopedic doctors visiting from HVO, including myself.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I felt culturally competent when treating patients in low-resource settings.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I felt culturally competent when interacting with the host medical staff.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was able to bring new skills to the practice(s) where I volunteered.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was able to learn new skills that I can apply at my home practice.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was able to improve the overall quality of care at the institution(s) where I volunteered.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I interacted in a professional manner with the local medical staff.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The host medical staff seemed attentive to the needs and concerns of doctors visiting from HVO.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments

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11. On a scale of **NOT IMPORTANT** to **VERY IMPORTANT**, how important were the following variables in regards to your decision to volunteer in a low resource country?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Not Important</th>
<th>Slightly Important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I want to increase my cross-cultural competence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I want to learn new clinical techniques</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I want experience with cases that are not common at my home practice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International experience will benefit my career</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I want to help improve the quality of patient care being provided</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I want to help improve the knowledge/skills of the Orthopedic staff at the local practice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I want to help increase the number of skilled Orthopedic providers at the local practice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enter another option

Enter another option

Comments


12. In general, do you think your volunteer activities in low-resource countries has benefited the institution(s) where you volunteered?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

13. On a scale of **NOT BENEFICIAL** to **VERY BENEFICIAL**, in general, how do you think your volunteer activities have benefited the low resource practice(s) you have visited?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not Beneficial</th>
<th>Slightly Beneficial</th>
<th>Beneficial</th>
<th>Very Beneficial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I provided training in advanced surgical techniques</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I offered experience and insight from my home country</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I helped to increase practice efficiency</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I helped improve documentation procedures in the practice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I helped strengthen their institution’s orthopedic capacity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I helped train the trainer in teaching and mentoring skills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments

[Blank space for comments]
14. On a scale of **NOT CHALLENGING** to **VERY CHALLENGING**, what are some of the challenges you have encountered while volunteering in a low resource country(s)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Not Challenging</th>
<th>Slightly Challenging</th>
<th>Challenging</th>
<th>Very Challenging</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I lacked the necessary clinical skills to benefit the local patient population</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I had difficulty interacting with patients due to cultural barriers</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I had difficulty interacting with patients due to language barriers</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I had no long term follow up of cases</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was not fully aware of all of the resources available to me during my stay</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My visit(s) was too short</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My visit(s) was too long</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The overall cost of the visit was too much for my budget</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments

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**Summary Questions**

**Page description:**

*The following questions allow open ended responses. You may write as much as you want for this section.*
15. How do you think the experience of volunteering at a practice in a low resource country could be improved?

16. If you have any other comments regarding your volunteer activities in a low resource country(s), please share them here:

17. Would you be willing to participate in a brief Skype interview in order to discuss your volunteer experiences through HVO in a low resource country?
   - Yes
   - No

18. Please provide your name and email address. (The below contact information will only be used to contact you to set up a Skype interview, and your survey responses will remain anonymous).

   Name
   Email
Thank You!

We would like to thank you for your participation in this survey. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please reach out to us via email.

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David Wassef
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