

Erasmus Report

Unfallkrankenhaus Berlin – Charite Berlin

Surgery, Neurology and Oxyology

Application:

Last year in September coming back to Pecs after the summer holiday I ran into a friend who is one year ahead of me. He told me about his internship and that he organized it together with the Erasmus program within his practical year. That was the first time I heard about this great possibility. I emailed our Erasmus office of the University of Pecs and they gave me all the information I needed to apply. With their help I applied for the traineeship at the Unfallkrankenhaus Berlin, a teaching hospital of the Charite Berlin.

Arrival:

I had mixed feelings because on the one hand I was excited to travel to Berlin and have my first “real” work experience, on the other hand I was a bit anxious because I didn’t know how it would be like working in such a big hospital. I arrived in Berlin by train and directly met my room mates at our apartment. It was a sunny day and the city was full of people no sign of corona anywhere.

Clinic:

The main reason I chose this hospital is their surgery department. It is one of the biggest and one of the most specialized in whole Berlin. They have plastic surgery with a department for seriously burnt patients (treating patients from whole Germany), a spinal cord injury department, traumatology department, visceral surgery department and a hand surgery department. They treat polytraumatic patients every day, as they are an acute care clinic.

It has been a very interesting time and I have learned a lot during the three months working at this hospital.

Surgery: (5 weeks)

They start in the morning at 6:30 a.m. to discuss all patients and get updated about the night shift. After that they start their morning round, visiting all patients to see how they are doing, discussing results and the next steps. At 7:30 a.m. is the surgery meeting to discuss which patients will get operated by whom. During the day I assisted at the surgeries, took blood samples and helped the doctors with administrative stuff, such as writing reports. In the afternoon every day is an x-ray meeting, to discuss the x-ray, computer tomography and MRI scans. After this meeting I was allowed to go home.

Neurology: (3 weeks)

They started at 7:30 am in the morning with doing their round and seeing all patients. Compared to the surgery rounds, these take much more time. My tasks were to take blood samples, do the neurological examinations, dementia tests and I was allowed to do some lumbar punctures. I really enjoyed working in this team.

Oxyology (2 weeks)

In these two short weeks I accompanied every day a different anaesthesiologist. I saw many different operations and was able to intubate and assist different narcosis.

Accommodation:

I organized my accommodation on my own. Together with 2 other Erasmus students we rented a shared flat in the centre of Berlin. In the morning I had quite a journey to the hospital, but in the evenings and at weekends I enjoyed living so central. Our flat was located near the Tempelhofer Feld, the former airport. This awesome park was ideal for meeting people after work, go running in the morning or enjoying the sun on a good sunny day.

The city:

One of the main reasons I chose Berlin is, that I would like to work there as soon as I finish university. This Erasmus programme gave me the chance to get to know Berlin. I loved the city, its food, its cultural programme, the flea markets, its parks, cafes, and lakes around the city. We went to outdoor cinemas, to jazz clubs, to art exhibitions, visited Potsdam with Sanssoucci, visited Magdeburg, went to the Wannsee and visited most of the districts. Berlin is a crazy city with nothing that doesn't exist there, but with very friendly and international people.

Conclusion:

I am very grateful that I had the chance to work abroad through Erasmus+ and their financial support. I can definitely recommend doing traineeships around Europe and getting to know different countries, people and cultures. It has been a wonderful time.

I wish everyone in the upcoming Erasmus projects an unforgettable and exciting trip. Just do it!

