

Voice of the International Students

VIS

医学研究院
国際連携部門だより

(October 2019
Vol.25)

What is VIS ?

The International Relations Division of the Faculty of Medicine issues VIS to send out the live messages from International Students of Graduate School of Medicine, Graduate School of Biomedical Science and School of Medicine, and to promote the exchange of intercultural information. We hope VIS helps to cultivate intercultural communications and boost international exchanges.

VIS の発行の目的は、医学院・医理工学院・医学部医学科の学生の生の声を発信することと、異文化間の情報交換を促進することです。VIS が異文化間のコミュニケーションを養い、国際交流を実行していくうえで役立つことを望みます。

WELCOME EXCHANGE STUDENTS

From University of Eastern Finland, Finland



Liisa-Maria Simontaival

受入教室：神経内科学教室、
小児科学教室、法医学教室、
放射線医学教室

Department of Neurology,
Department of Pediatrics,
Department of Forensic
Medicine, Department of
Radiology

Overall the experience was very nice and unforgettable. I had the possibility to examine little babies in the Department of Neonatology and see autopsies in the Department of Forensic Medicine. I met patients with diseases that I had only read about in the neurology ward and got more knowledge about Neuroradiology in the Department of Radiology. It was nice to spend time with doctors and other medical students and taste different kinds of Japanese food. I don't speak or understand Japanese but doctors and medical students translated cases for me. We also got some private lectures in English. Doctors and students were very nice and friendly. (Liisa-Maria)



Joel Hermannii Laitala

受入教室：救急医学教室、
小児科学教室、法医学教室、
放射線医学教室

Department of Acute and
Critical Care Medicine,
Department of Pediatrics,
Department of Forensic
Medicine, Department of
Radiology

Studies were interesting and different than in my home country. Of course, language was different but also diseases were different. Patients talked Japanese which was a little bit difficult. Many doctors spoke English well which was really good thing. It was easy to ask questions and talk. They also introduced me to Japanese culture at same time. I participated to BBQ party for example and there were doctors and students. (Joel)



WELCOME EXCHANGE STUDENTS

From Chung-Ang University, Korea



Minki Hong

受入教室：精神医学教室、
皮膚科学教室、腎泌尿器外科学教室

Department of Psychiatry,
Department of Dermatology,
Department of Renal and Genitourinary Surgery

Since I want to be a doctor in Japan in the future, this clinical elective became a valuable experience for me. During the total 4 weeks of clinical elective, I stayed at Department of Psychiatry, Dermatology and Renal and Genitourinary Surgery. The most impressive thing was that discussions with students and hospital staff were very active. I was very impressed by

the fact that if the students do not know, they don't hesitate to ask the professors and the professors are willing to answer to the question. Furthermore, Even if I am international student from Korea, Hospital staff and medical students kindly explained to me. I would like to thank all staffs in Hokkaido University Hospital to take good care of me. (Minki)

From Taipei Medical University, Taiwan



Po-Jen Huang (left)

受入教室：消化器外科学教室Ⅱ、
形成外科学教室

Department of Gastroenterological Surgery II,
Department of Plastic and Reconstructive
Surgery

Ya-Yun Huang (right)

受入教室：消化器外科学教室Ⅰ、
産婦人科学教室

Department of Gastroenterological Surgery I,
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

I had a very impressive and delightful clinical exchange experience in the hospital of Hokkaido University. In the department of Surgery I, I met a group of very professional doctors and saw many diseases and surgeries such as Echinococcosis which I had never seen in Taiwan before. In the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, I did feel the hospitality of Japanese. Not only the doctors but also the students took good care of me. Doctors always answered my

questions thoroughly and gave me chances to scrub in surgeries that made me feel a part of their team. Doctors there also spent a lot of time chatting and sharing experience with me about the differences between the systems of medicine in Japan and Taiwan. I am thankful for everyone I met and everything I experienced during this period in the hospital of Hokkaido University. (Ya-Yun)



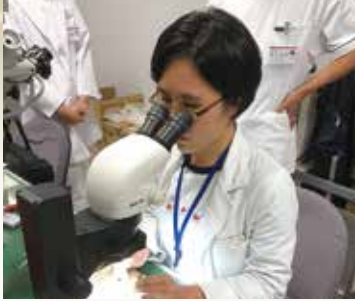
Du-I Chiou

受入教室：腎泌尿器科学教室、
耳鼻咽喉科・頭頸部外科学教室
Department of Renal and Genitourinary
Surgery, Department of Otolaryngology-Head and neck Surgery

I learned a lot about the professional knowledge, saw a lot of special and major surgeries, and also got a chance to try the training machine of laparoscopy and Da Vinci. During the work or surgery, doctors always stuck to the rules. They never cut corner and do all the steps slowly, accurately and correctly. Anytime, they always can find out whether you have some questions, or whether you have some needs. And always, they are very kind to me and to each other. (Du-I)

WELCOME EXCHANGE STUDENTS

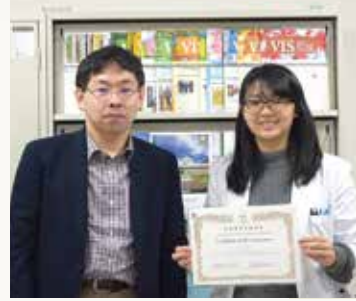
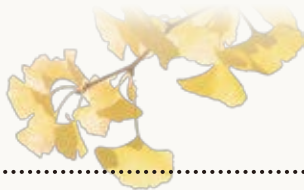
From China Medical University, Taiwan



Hsin Yu Chou

受入教室：循環器・呼吸器外科学教室、形成外科学教室
Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

In the Department of Thoracic surgery, they let me scrub in and observe the operations more closely, brought me to the Department of Pathology to show me the pathological sections, and also brought me to other hospitals to show me more operations. In the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, I joined not only operations but also out-patient clinics. I appreciate that I had a chance to give a self-introduction about my country and hospital in a morning meeting, as well as a short review of ear plasty. They presented their own interested topics in Plastic and Reconstructive surgery. It was impressive! Other than that, I had lecture about suture and tried vascular anastomosis with special model. For me, the one month in Hokkaido University Hospital is wonderful. I was not only learning in medical field but also curious to compare the similarity and difference between Taiwan and Japan. (Hsin Yu)



Chu Ting Li (right)

受入教室：消化器外科学教室 II、循環器・呼吸器外科学教室
Department of Gastroenterological Surgery II, Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery

The time in Hokkaido University Hospital was so great and worthwhile. I was impressed by the care for patients from doctors, and the friendly communications among good patient-doctor relationship and good teamwork. During the two weeks in the Department of Gastroenterological Surgery II, which was my first elective, many doctors translated the contents of morning meetings into English for me, so I could know the patients' conditions and the doctors' consideration. In ward rounds, doctors set good examples of explaining each medical treatment, caring patients genuinely, and showing respect for patients. In the suture lectures, I practiced laparoscopic suture on the model, which was an unforgettable experience.

My second Department was Cardiovascular Surgery. There were operations every day, and many different kinds of surgeries were performed. I would like to express my deepest gratitude toward Hokkaido University and Hokkaido University Hospital for giving me all the help and offering me the chance to stay in this friendly learning environment. (Chu Ting)

From Gyeongsang National University, Korea

Jong Tae Ko (left)

受入教室：腎泌尿器外科学教室、消化器内科学教室
Department of Renal and Genitourinary Surgery, Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology



Jeong Cha Ho (middle)

受入教室：循環器・呼吸器外科学教室、呼吸器内科学教室
Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, Department of Respiratory Medicine

I decided to go to Japan for medical practice because I wanted to learn about the situation of Japanese hospitals and their medical culture. Among the universities in Japan, Hokkaido University has a tradition of 100 years, and I have gone to Hokkaido University to study

elective medicine to learn their pride and tradition. Thank you very much for everyone in Hokkaido University Hospital kindness in all of me, and for trying to explain to me in English. Hokkaido University Hospital was enthusiastic about student education. (Jong Tae)

WELCOME EXCHANGE STUDENTS

From Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Paul Vijo Poulose (back row, left)

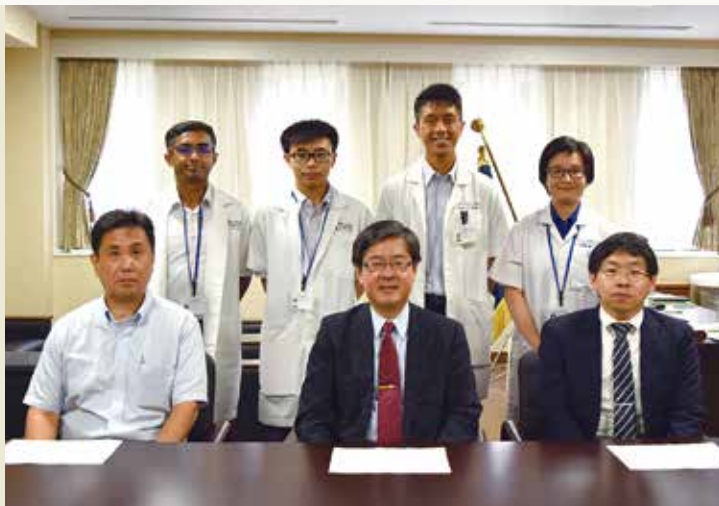
受入教室：脳神経外科学教室、
形成外科学教室

Department of Neurosurgery,
Department Plastic and
Reconstructive Surgery

Damon Jie Hui Tan (back row, middle left)

受入教室：消化器外科学教室 I、
循環器・呼吸器外科学教室

Department of Gastroenterological
Surgery I, Department of
Cardiovascular and Thoracic
Surgery



Russell John Chuah (back row, middle right)

受入教室：消化器内科学教室、
免疫・代謝内科学教室

Department of Gastroenterology
and Hepatology, Department of
Rheumatology, Endocrinology
and Nephrology

Isabelle Rui Wen Yoong (back row, right)

受入教室：免疫・代謝内科学教室、
皮膚科学教室

Department of Rheumatology,
Endocrinology and Nephrology,
Department of Dermatology

The hospital departments that I was in made me feel accommodated and occupied. Many patients had complex or uncommon conditions that would not often be encountered in Singapore. Initially, I was worried that I would be missing out during ward rounds and other clinical activities because I do not speak Japanese. However, the doctors would very patiently discuss each patient's case with me in English and address any questions I had. Much of what I learnt is thanks to their enthusiasm and passion for teaching. I was also left in awe by the hospital's 'hardware', such as the advanced endoscopic techniques used. However, it is not only the 'heartware' that impressed me the most – I will never forget how everyone, be it senior consultants, junior residents, nurses or patients, treated each other with utmost respect. (Russel)

From the first day onwards, the staff at Hokkaido University and the hospital were extremely warm and welcoming to me. In my time at the Department of Neurosurgery, I got the opportunity to witness a variety of advanced technology in the operating theatre. I was very impressed and amazed by this. I also got to see complex medical cases and surgeries in my 2 weeks there. In my time at the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, I saw a wide variety of cases as well. The staff were extremely kind to me, and encouraged me to participate as much as possible. This made me feel more involved and made my experience more meaningful. (Paul)

The doctors and healthcare professionals I met in Hokkaido University Hospital were very welcoming and approachable. They took time to give me bedside tutorials, lectures and brought me around to observe medical and surgical procedures. Four weeks into my posting, a magnitude 6.6 earthquake struck Hokkaido at 3 am on 6 September, a Thursday morning, and the main power plant was shut down. It was my first experience with a natural disaster, and it was terrifying, not only because of the initial severe shakes, but also the worry of when electricity and water supply would return. Nonetheless, I was awed by the how everyone responded. The Japanese queued up in an orderly manner to purchase food, water and other daily necessities, taking only what they required, in view of limited supplies. In the absence of functional traffic lights, pedestrians and cars waited patiently and took turns to cross. People also voluntarily opened their homes to share shower facilities, meals, and many took to the streets to clear up debris caused by the earthquake. The next day, when the electricity was restored in a few malls, many stores set up extension cords and charging ports for everyone to use freely. This experience not only boosted my medical knowledge, I also learnt about the kindness and resilience of the Japanese, and I went home better appreciating the fragility of life.

(Isabelle)



Voice of the International Students 医学研究院 国際連携部門だより Vol.25

Issued by the International Relations Division, Faculty of Medicine, Hokkaido University

Correspondence to : relation@med.hokudai.ac.jp

Website URL : <https://edu.med.hokudai.ac.jp/international-relations/>