

Attention Third and Fourth Year Students

From: Larry Thal

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A very unique opportunity exists for one or two optometrists or students wishing to accompany me to Guatemala as part of a 50-person medical team providing surgical care to Guatemalan Indians in the beautiful highland coffee-producing region of Guatemala.

A team of five ophthalmologists, one or two optometrists and one or two students will be part of this team from 12 to 22 August 2010. The 50-person team also includes plastic and general surgeons, anesthesiologists, head and neck, pediatrics, internal medicine, nurses and surgical techs. The optometry clinic provides surgical triage for ophthalmology and provides therapeutic care for all ocular pathology. Optometrists/students will treat glaucoma, dacryosistitis, etc. Parasitic disease, retinoblastoma, corneal burns, basal cell and congenital glaucoma are not uncommon. Optometrists/students will see more pathology on this short trip than most ophthalmologists see in a year. Additionally, optometrists/students participate in post operative care of cataract, pterygium, carcinoma, retinoblastoma and cosmetic cases (brow lift, ptosis, etc.).

In order to participate optometrists pay \$750 and students/residents pay \$300 for airfare and board. Food is excellent and accommodations are good at Hospital de la Familia. This 30-bed hospital has operated continuously since 1976. Facilities and equipment are provided by ASHA (American Schools and Hospitals Abroad), US foundations, etc.

While not a UCB accredited rotation previous students have successfully arranged this trip. If you have any questions please call me.

If you are interested respond by e-mail to LarryThal@Berkeley.edu or call Larry Thal at 510-643-0786.