

**University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Saigon, Vietnam**  
**Description reviewed / approved by UBC Liaison, Dr. Hanh Huynh**

**Elective: Infectious Diseases**

Site: University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Role: Medical Student / Year 4

Learning objectives

*Knowledge*

- To gain competency in the recognition, diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases common to the region.
  - Malaria / Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever / Hepatitis A / Diarrheal diseases / Tuberculosis / HIV/AIDS / Japanese Encephalitis
- Learn about the epidemiology of various infectious diseases common in South East Asia
- Improve competency in anti-microbial selection and appreciate side effects of treatment regimens.
- Improve consultation skills with a focus on infectious diseases and tropical medicine
- Appreciate the importance of infection control and potential public health implications of infectious diseases.
- Appreciate the burden of infectious diseases in South East Asia

*Communicator*

- Learn basic Vietnamese to be able to communicate with and take a basic history from patients
- Be able to work with a translator for a more thorough history, to explain procedures, and to effectively counsel and educate patients
- Discuss and address pertinent psychosocial issues as an integral part of a patient's medical plan

*Collaborator*

- Be an effective and contributing part of an extensive health care team (including doctors, nurses, dieticians, pharmacists, and other hospital admin) in both an inpatient and outpatient setting
- Discuss cases and formulate an appropriate medical plan with other health care professionals
- Work with patients as active participants in their own health care

*Leader / Manager*

- Present patients at rounds for discussion with a multi-disciplinary team
- Present case reports or updates on disease management in a given field
- Gain the knowledge, skills, and cultural competency necessary to become a leader in global health in my home community

*Health Advocate*

- Learn about relevant local, regional, and international policies and procedures around prevention and treatment of infectious diseases
- Be aware of public health concerns and infection control
- Be an active participant in patient education
- Empower patients to advocate for themselves in a health care setting

*Scholar*

- Develop a knowledge base and understanding of tropical infectious diseases. This includes microbiology, epidemiology, clinical approach to, and treatment of local diseases.
- Improve knowledge and competency in selection appropriate anti-microbial therapy for patients with and without comorbidities
- Gain an understanding of and appreciation for the biopsychosocial impacts of disease
- Improve clinical skills and competence in medical consults
- Gain knowledge and develop skills around approaching and treating infectious diseases in the context of other medical and psychosocial comorbidities
- Stay up to date on the most recent information regarding infectious diseases and their treatment; actively participate in academic rounds and learning sessions
- Develop an appreciation and become an advocate for relevant public health concerns and patient education
- Apply critical appraisal of literature in medical decision making

*Professional*

- Develop cultural competency
- Develop understanding of a foreign health care system: triaging, allocation of resources, and health care financing.