Global Health Elective Code of Conduct

• I will hold myself to the highest standards of professionalism, respect, and courtesy.
• I understand that the same standards of professionalism apply when I am abroad as when I am at home, including full disclosure about my status as a trainee, discussing patient care with a supervising preceptor, and obtaining consent in an ethically and culturally appropriate manor.
• I recognize that personal behaviors, clinical skills, and competencies are culturally based and resource-dependent. I will be sensitive to cultural differences in standards of care, and I will respect divergent but contextually appropriate diagnostic and treatment paradigms.
• If performing clinical care, I will care for patients under the direct supervision of a local preceptor, within the limitations established by my level of training. Where feasible, I will give all patients a choice of whether or not to have trainees involved in their care.
• If performing research, I will ensure that the same ethical and institutional safeguards that are in place at my home institution are upheld, including but not restricted to obtaining appropriate Institutional Review Board approval and informed consent.
• I will keep the wellbeing of the patient foremost in my mind, recognizing the importance of honoring patient autonomy in communities with limited resources.
• I will respect every patient’s decision-making capacity and right to privacy. This includes the context of photography and social media. I will seek permission from the patient and the host institution before taking and/or sharing/posting any photograph or video material.
• I will prepare as completely as possible for my international elective, including learning about endemic diseases, local health care issues, laws, standards of care, and customs.
• I will be responsible for my personal health and well-being including but not limited to pre-departure preparation with a travel clinic, developing a management plan for existing health conditions, maintenance of personal safety during the elective, and evacuation planning.
• I will demonstrate cultural competency throughout my global health experience, through all facets of my personal and professional behavior.
• I will work with my mentors and local hosts to minimize the burden on the host institution.
• I will strive to overcome cultural and language barriers to delivery of care, by the use of trained interpreters, community liaisons, and local healthcare staff where possible.
• If I observe a breach of the above guidelines I will notify my faculty elective mentor.

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Full Name of Trainee        Signature                       Date

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Full Name of Faculty Mentor  Signature                       Date