



NorthShore University HealthSystem

A Teaching Affiliate of The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine

Chicago - Italy Emergency Medicine Resident Exchange Program

In association with CoSMEU (Project ChiCoS)

Alexandra Asrow, MD, FACEP, Director



The Setting

Welcome to Chicago, one of the largest and most exciting cities in the world. I invite you to participate in an exciting new program for the exchange of senior Italian Emergency Medicine (EM) residents to come to Chicago for a one month visiting rotation at the NorthShore University HealthSystem hospitals, a teaching affiliate of the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. In return, Emergency Medicine Physicians from NorthShore will be facilitating visiting educational sessions for participating EM residency programs throughout Italy.

NorthShore is a group of four hospitals in the Chicagoland area: Evanston Hospital, Skokie Hospital, Highland Park Hospital, and Glenbrook Hospital. We serve a large and diverse patient population, boast a total of 875 total beds, are home to the world class Grainger Simulation Center as well as a level I and three level II trauma centers, and train residents from multiple leading EM residency programs in Chicago. During your time here you are guaranteed to meet an incredible group of people, and have the experience of a lifetime.



The Program

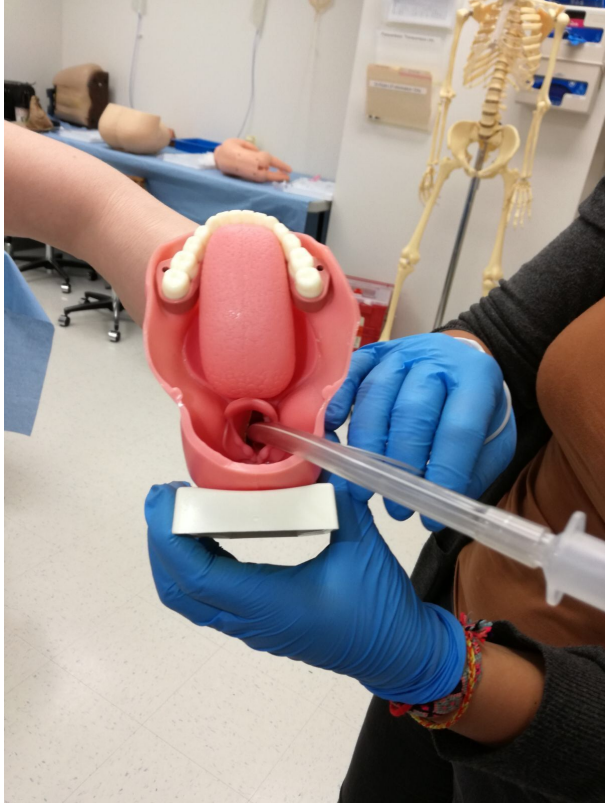
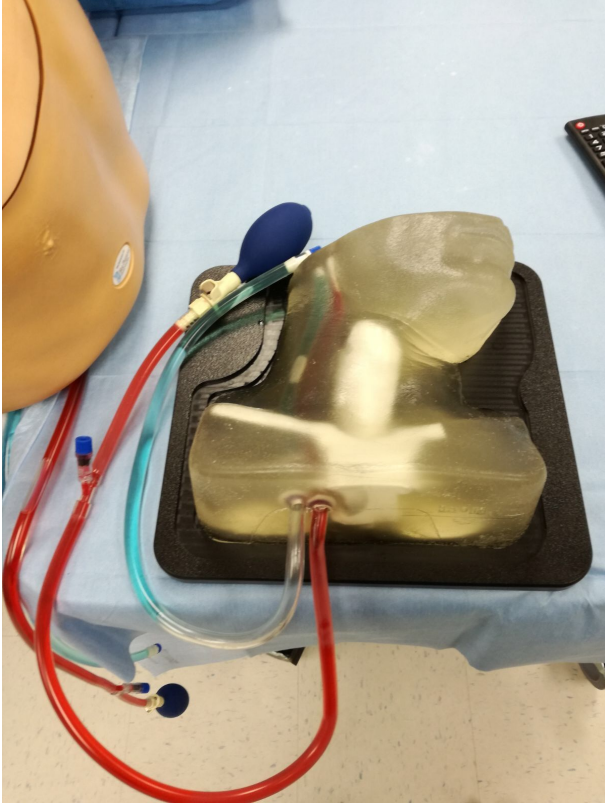
If selected, you will spend a month in the beautiful city of Chicago as a visiting EM resident. You will spend your weekdays working one-on-one alongside EM trained and boarded attending physicians at all four NorthShore hospitals. You will observe the flow, scope, and intricacies of our modern and state of the art comprehensive Emergency Departments. You will interact with other residents, medical students, nurses, technicians, radiology, lab, psychiatry, and all other types of medical specialists. You will see trauma, resuscitation, critical care, adult, pediatric, psychiatric, surgical, orthopedic, OBGYN, urology, ENT, every possible patient case you can fathom, all cared for independently by our outstanding team of Emergency Physicians.



Each Thursday will be spent in our didactic lessons specifically targeted to topics in EM, given by EM attending and resident physicians to EM residents. You will learn alongside your American peers. You will participate fully in our simulation sessions running both in-depth real life EM cases, and specific procedure labs at the incredible Grainger Center for Simulation and Innovation located at Evanston Hospital. You will also have the privilege of additional one-on-one Simulation sessions with your program director. This is one of the most unique and rewarding portions of this program.







Your weekends will be free to explore all the culture, museums, art, music, food, and excitement Chicago has to offer. Additionally, if your home institution chooses to participate, our attending physicians will be organizing visiting lecture and simulation series in Italy to continue to strengthen the relationships and teaching that you have bravely begun.



The Directives

The goal of this program is to immerse you in an intense and rewarding EM environment, at the forefront of medicine, and of emergency medical care. You will be exposed to and become comfortable with the comprehensive ED setting, seeing patients from all walks of life and types of illness. You will become familiar and confident with bread and butter EM procedures through individualized attention in the simulation lab. This will include airway, difficult airway, central line, chest tube, lumbar puncture, resuscitation, standard and difficult obstetric deliveries, and more. You will meet a supportive and encouraging group of peers and teachers who are eager to teach you and help you succeed. You will be able to take this knowledge back to your home institution to help advance and change EM for the better, one individual at a time. You will become the teacher and expert to build a brighter future.



The Prerequisites

Participants must be senior level EM residents in a program in Italy. You must be fluent and comfortable in English to gain the most from your experience. You must have written support from your institution. Finally, you will have a personal interview with the program director for final acceptance. There will be a packet of forms to complete upon acceptance, the details of which will be provided at that time.



The Director

Alexandra Asrow, MD, FACEP, is a Chicago native, a Board Certified practicing EM physician, a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians, and the American College of Emergency Physicians Lead Ambassador to Italy. She first fell in love with Italy while studying abroad at the University of Bologna as an Erasmus student visiting from Brown University. She returned as a Fulbright Scholar a few years later doing multidisciplinary research in Torino. As a senior EM resident, she spent a self organized and directed month visiting in Rome just as EM had become a recognized specialty in Italy. This wonderful experience sparked the inspiration to develop a broader exchange program for others to share. She has worked diligently since then to make it happen. She is passionate about teaching, and remains very active in the international EM community. She is working with multiple international medical technology companies to supplement and enhance the scope of this program in the future. Long term, she hopes to help develop and promote Emergency Medicine as a growing specialty in Italy, and continue to form lifelong connections with like minded colleagues to make real change a reality. When she is not working, she enjoys playing music on the harp and guitar, drawing and painting, travel, and spending time with her family in Chicago.



Hope to see soon you in Chicago!

