Sample Practicum Learning Plan Proposal

CUSTOMIZED – LAB-BASED RESEARCH

Link to submit plan:  [http://jhsph.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aVs3hhr2tN8sPBP](http://jhsph.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aVs3hhr2tN8sPBP)

Student Contact Information
Your first name: StudentFirstName
Your last name: StudentLastName
Your phone number (XXX-XXX-XXXX): 333-444-5555
Your Email address: student@jhu.edu

Please indicate your academic program.
- [x] Full-time (MPH only)

How did you connect with this practicum opportunity (select best answer)?
- [x] Identified the practicum via web or other media, other than JHSPH Practicum Opportunity Site

Preceptor Contact Information
CV required if non-JHSPH faculty member. Please send to practice@jhu.edu

Primary Preceptor first name: PreceptorFirstName
Primary Preceptor last name: PreceptorLastName
Preceptor phone (XXX-XXX-XXXX): 444-555-6666
Preceptor Email Address: preceptor@jhmi.org
Primary Department (if JHSPH faculty member, search department here: [http://www.jhsph.edu/faculty/directory/list](http://www.jhsph.edu/faculty/directory/list)): Not applicable

Alternate Preceptor Contact Information
CV not required, but contact information required below.
Please note that an alternate preceptor is required for the practicum. The primary and alternate preceptors cannot be the same. The role of the alternate preceptor is to be the back-up person for the primary preceptor and able to take over for the primary preceptor if he/she is not available.

Alt preceptor first name: AltFirstName
Alt preceptor last name: AltLastName
Alt preceptor phone (XXX-XXX-XXXX): 444-555-6667
Alt preceptor email: altpreceptor@jhmi.org

Organization Information:
Name of organization where practicum is being completed: Johns Hopkins Center for AIDS Research
City where organization is located: Baltimore
State or country where organization is located: Maryland
Brief description of organization
Describe the organization’s mission and population focus. Include organization’s URL.

The HOPE (HIV Organ Policy Equity) Act, conceived and written by the team I will be working with, was signed by President Obama on Nov 21, 2013 to initiate research on the use of HIV-infected deceased donors (HIVDD) for transplantation in HIV-infected (HIV+) patients. If successfully implemented, this will attenuate the organ shortage and decrease waiting times and mortality, for both HIV+ patients as well as HIV- patients on the same waiting list. These aims are strongly supported by AOPO (the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations) as well as the United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS), the two groups overseeing deceased donation and organ transplantation in the United States. We will be collaborating with the APOP and UNOS organizations, as well as epidemiologists at JHSPH and the National Institutes of Health to work on this multidisciplinary project. http://hopkinscfar.org/about/

Practicum Project Title
List the title of the practicum project. If your project does not have a defined title, please come up with a one-sentence title that describes your project.
Research on the use of HIV-infected deceased donors (HIVDD) for transplantation in HIV-infected (HIV+) patients

Practicum Description: Project aims, goals and objectives
Describe what the project aims to accomplish (1-2 sentences) and then list the specific project goals and objectives (2-5 recommended). If you are unsure about the specific goals and objectives for your project, please discuss with your preceptor.

A. Goals: exploring the epidemiologic and biologic characteristics of the HIVDD pool in the US that can be measured during the rapid donor screening window.
B. We also hope to determine the prevalence of potential HIV-related donor contraindications, which exist in the HIVDD pool but cannot be detected with rapid donor screening.
C. Finally, we hope to determine the extent to which rapid donor screening can accurately estimate HIVDD safety and quality compared to optimal donor screening.

Describe how the project is population-health focused

If HIVDD organs were available, transplant rates for HIV+ candidates would likely be significantly higher, resulting in less death on the waiting list, more hope for HIV+ patients in need of transplants, and thus higher rates of listing potential candidates. However, there is currently a profound organ shortage, with extremely long waiting times, and HIV+ individuals are particularly vulnerable given their higher waitlist mortality. A novel source of organs specific to HIV+ individuals is desperately needed. Thus, it is clear that this project could have profound positive effects for the HIV+ population.

Short description of your specific contribution to the overall goals and objectives of the project (1-2 sentences)
What is your specific contribution to the overall goals and objectives of the project? Describe your distinct role in the project.

My specific role in this project is to perform statistical, epidemiological and bench research that aids in the advancement of this project. I will also be collaborating with scientists at the National Institutes of Health and APOP and UNOS organizations to perform my research.

Summary of your anticipated practicum duties (list)
Examples: conduct literature review of surveillance programs for health condition, execute data analysis to identify trends in utilization of medication, write final report to synthesize data, track current health policy trends, review similar programs to adapt for new program

1. Partner with OPOs to identify potential HIVDD via epidemiologic surveillance and perform the standard donor evaluation process, including medical/social history and laboratory testing, point-of-care CD4 count and HIV viral load.
2. Characterize optimal donor screening by comparing commercial assays for anti-retroviral drug resistance and viral tropism to more sensitive assays
3. Utilize statistical analyses to determine the probability a donor with given characteristics would harbor a potential HIV-related contraindication to donation that would take longer than the rapid screening window to detect. This is critical for clinical decision-making and for policy-making.

Summary of your preceptor’s duties (list)
Examples: provide student with background materials, supervise student activities, provide student with feedback on work

My supervisor will supervise my independent project, connect me with our collaborators and provide feedback on the progress of my research.

Will you be required to complete any training for the practicum project? If yes, please describe. Examples: provide student with confidentiality or HIPPA training, orient student to data analysis software, training to interact with population focus, etc.
No.

Description of anticipated final deliverables
Final products that you will develop for the organization. Please note you will be required to share at least one final deliverable with the Practice Office upon completion of your practicum.
Final Paper

Do you anticipate that your practicum will be linked to your capstone project? More information about linking practicum and capstone can be found here: http://www.jhsph.edu/offices-and-services/practice-and-training/practicum/for-students/practicum-linked-to-capstone.html

☐ Yes – Please explain how the practicum and capstone will be distinct.
☐ No – Move on to next question.
Not sure – Please explain why you are not sure if your practicum will be linked to your capstone project.

I am not sure that my data will be ready to write up for a capstone by May—If not I will find another capstone project.

Anticipated practicum start date (mm/dd/yyyy): 09/01/XXXX

Anticipated mid-point Progress Report submission date (mm/dd/yyyy): 02/01/XXXX

Anticipated practicum end date (mm/dd/yyyy): 04/17/XXXX

Final report will be due 2 weeks after end date. If completing practicum in the fourth term, final report is due May 1.

Will this experience fulfill your entire practicum requirement?

- Yes
- No, I will be combining it with other experiences to fulfill the requirement

Total Estimated Practicum Hours (for non-course practicum): 200

What specific MPH competencies relate to your aims for this experience? You must select at least five. You will then be asked to develop a specific learning objective for each of your selected five competencies.

MPH COMPETENCIES:

Evidence-based Approaches to Public Health
- Apply epidemiological methods to the breadth of settings and situations in public health practice
- Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context
- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software, as appropriate
- Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice

Public Health & Health Care Systems
- Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings
- Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and societal levels

Planning & Management to Promote Health
- Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities’ health
- Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs
- Design a population-based policy, program, project or intervention
- Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management
- Select methods to evaluate public health programs

Policy in Public Health
Discuss multiple dimensions of the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence
Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes
Advocate for political, social or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations
Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity

Leadership
Apply principles of leadership, governance and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration and guiding decision making
Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges

Communication
Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors
Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content

Interprofessional Practice
Perform effectively on interprofessional teams

Systems Thinking
Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue

Other: _______________________________

What are your specific learning objectives for the practicum? Your learning objectives need to be aligned to each of the competencies that you selected above.
Think carefully about (1) what you hope to gain from the practicum experience/course, (2) the competencies you selected in the prior question, and (3) how you will accomplish your practicum learning objectives/goals.

**Competency 1:** Evidence-based Approaches to Public Health: Apply epidemiological methods to the breadth of settings and situations in public health practice

**Specific learning objective:** My learning objective is to integrate what I am learning in my epidemiology, biostatistics and public health sciences courses, and apply my skills in epidemiologic surveillance towards a comprehensive, multi-dimensional project that has a translational effect on a vulnerable population.

**You would then need to come up with a specific learning objective for each of the remaining competencies you selected in the previous question (for a total of 5 distinct learning objectives).**

I have reviewed and understand the description of the practicum experience, above, and I understand my responsibilities as a student. I certify that the work being submitted is my own.

Yes
No