

My experience in the Pediatrics Department at Queens Hospital Center was overall amazing. I worked with a diverse patient population from various ethnic backgrounds, ages ranging from one day to seventeen years, across multiple clinical settings.

The first three weeks were spent in the Pediatric Emergency Department, where I honed my physical examination skills and used equipment that needed further refinement, such as the otoscope and ophthalmoscope. The preceptors were exceptional, offering guidance on how to systematically and efficiently interview patients while ensuring that critical information related to the medical complaint was not overlooked.

In the fourth week, I was placed in the Pediatric Clinic, which operated on a different schedule and allowed more time to build relationships with patients and their families. Seeing the same provider over time helped foster trust and strong patient-provider bonds. This experience taught me that maintaining good rapport with both patients and families is essential when delivering effective healthcare.

My final week was spent in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), which I found to be the most exciting and rewarding. I made a meaningful impact by caring for and supporting patients as they progressed to full term and were ultimately discharged from the NICU. This experience had a lasting influence on my career considerations and solidified my interest in pursuing Pediatrics, specifically NICU, as a sub-specialty in the future.