



# STUDENT SELECTION

is Crucial for the Effects of Short-term Overseas Exchange Program

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## BACKGROUND

Peking University Health Science Center (PKUHSC) started its short-term overseas exchange program (SOEP) for students majoring in clinical medicine from 2000 and now almost every clinical medical student at PKUHSC applies for SOEP and around 1/3 of them could go overseas for 4-8 weeks' clinical rotation/clerkship every year. Student selection is conducted jointly by the Office of Education and the Office of International Cooperation of PKUHSC. The selection procedures are improved and evaluated every year.



## SUMMARY OF WORK

Questionnaires are distributed to selected students, unselected students, coordinators of PKUHSC and host institutions to evaluate the effectiveness and equality of selection procedures. Interviews are also conducted to these related people to find out the best way to choose the most suitable students for SOEP.



## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Most of the subjects think the present selection is very effective in finding the most suitable students for SOEP and the procedures are quite fair from the students' perspectives. The selection consists of three parts of interview: foreign language proficiency (including medical terminologies), personal performance (in Chinese) and teamwork test. Previous SOEP students are also invited to be the interviewees. Based on the feedbacks from both SOEP students and coordinators of host institutions, the selected students reached their designed goals of exchange.



## CONCLUSIONS

Student selection is crucial for the implementation of SOEP. Student's personal skills, language proficiency and teamwork spirit are all dispensable to ensure the students benefit most during the limited exchange time.