

Medical Practicum, January 2018 Alto Wangki-Bocay, Nicaragua By the Numbers

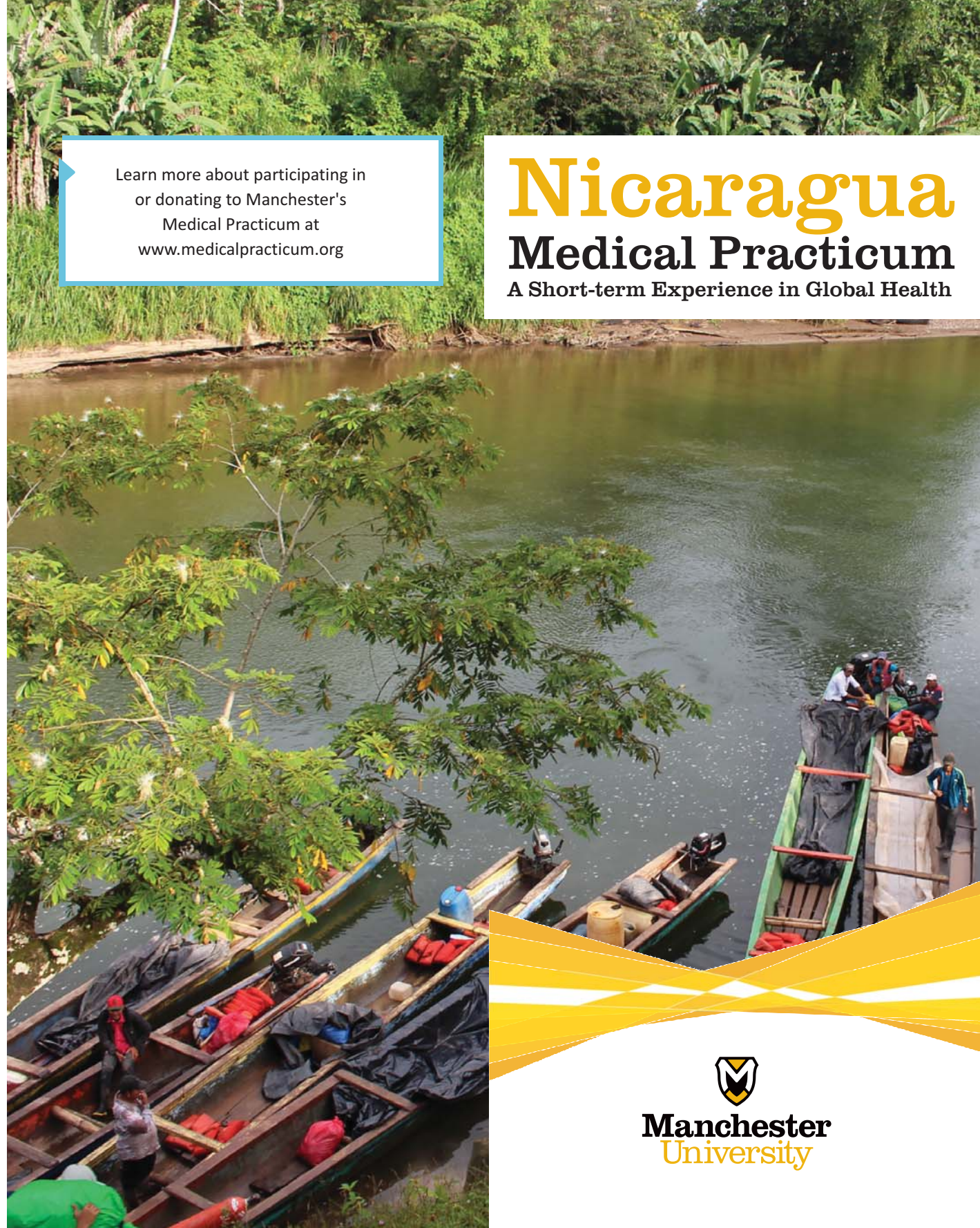
- 20 students
- 6 physicians, 1 physician assistants, 2 dentists, and 1 pharmacist, from U.S.
- 2 physicians, 1 veterinarian, 4 nurses, 1 health worker, 3 medical students, and 3 agricultural specialists from Nicaragua
- 1669 medical consultations
- 2652 prescriptions filled
- 408 vaccinations given
- 305 dental patients and 698 extractions
- Over 2,000 animals attended
- Over 300 lab tests performed
- \$18,706 used for reduced price medicines and medical/dental supplies
- Thousands of dollars worth of medicines and medical/dental supplies acquired through donation

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or donating to Manchester's
Medical Practicum at
www.medicalpracticum.org

Nicaragua

Medical Practicum

A Short-term Experience in Global Health



A Journey of Discovery and Service

The Medical Practicum at Manchester University is more than a three-credit class – it's a life-changing experience for MU students. While the nearly three-week-long excursion to Nicaragua is excellent for anyone who is motivated, it's probably most useful for those with a future in health care who have yet to apply to professional and graduate schools. It often helps students to discover their true passions and steer their next steps.

The faculty-guided practicum partners students with a team of U.S. physicians, nurses and other professionals to accompany local people in serving patients of all ages in Nicaraguan communities, where care is in short supply. The practicum team travels through mountains, jungles and rivers – by bus, 4-wheel-drive vehicles and dugout canoes – to remote villages – often without running water or electricity.

Besides serving hundreds of patients with medical and dental needs, as well as animals in need of veterinary care, practicum students experience a culture different from their own and observe first-hand the challenges faced by the people of this developing area. It's about improving the world by thinking generally about equality and social justice.

Medical Practicum History



Founded in 1981 by Dr. Ed Miller, the practicum will soon turn 40. For the last 24 trips, the medical practicum has traveled to Nicaragua, with the 10 most recent led by Dr. Jeff Osborne; previous years went to Guatemala, Panama, Honduras, Dominican Republic and Costa Rica. Around 393 Manchester students, along with 127 different health care providers and 68 other staffers have served more than 43,000 patients since its inception. Over half of practicum alumni have entered health care careers, including 90 physicians and 21 dentists.

An Embodiment of Mission

This short-term experience in global health exemplifies Manchester's mission to graduate persons who lead “principled, productive, and compassionate lives that improve the human condition,” and is a testament to Manchester's distinguished reputation in the sciences and commitment to excellence in preparation for health care careers. Students pay their own travel expenses, but it takes donations and grants to purchase medical and dental supplies.

