

Dear Mr Mahalingam,

Hello and great day.

On behalf of the 8th batch Malaysian interns from Twintech Faculty of Optometry, I would like to express our greatest gratitude and appreciation to the management, optometrists and staffs of Sankara Nethralaya for making our 4 months internship here a very memorable and unforgettable experience.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Mahalingam for helping us to coordinate the whole 4 months internship program. All the posting schedules went on smoothly on time which were set. We also want to thank our mentor, Ms. Subha who assist us throughout the whole 4 months. She is willing to spare her time to solve our problems faced. Besides, not to forget the rest of the academic staffs which contributed in helping us as well. We would want to thank all of the optometrists which involve in all of our posting departments. They were very friendly and willing to assist us in gaining practical experience and knowledge. We really appreciate all the efforts which contributed by all of the optometrist involved in.

Throughout this 4 months in India, I would say that this is one of the amazing experience which will be unforgettable. We gained a lot of various exposures clinically after attending different departments. Here, we got the chance to observe and assess various types of rare and common eye diseases due to heavy outflow of patients. This widens our knowledge and experience as an optometrist. It would be very useful for us in the future while seeing patients besides increasing our confidence level while doing a full eye work up. All of the practical exposures cant be obtained theoretically through eye disease books. Week by week postings has create chances for us to know a lot of people in SN. This has expand our social network and we will cherish this friendship when we back to Malaysia by keeping connected through facebook or emails. Tamil and Hindi language were the two languages which I will not forget while doing eye examination. We got the chance to sharpen and learn the language over here with some help from the optometrist as well. Starting was a bit awkward while we speak, but after some time, we speak slightly more fluent.

Looking back at the first day when we just arrive India, some of us felt culture shock as the population over here is larger compared to ours. Especially when we just step down in the Chennai airport, there were so many people waiting at the arrival area. This makes us feel so warm. Along the way to our hostel, honking is the sound which we will never missed hearing. Starting was slightly hard to accept, but after sometime, we got adapted to it even with the train honking sound. The hostel was good as we were having a/c and proper water heater. Over in this Tamil Nadu area, we can't miss seeing an AUTO moving around. Transport wise is not a problem for us but only 1 problem faced is the AUTO does not work according to meter. We learnt bargaining skills over here. We also learnt some important Tamil keywords that were useful for us to move around.

Regarding the food part, I think that starting was slightly hard for us to adapt to it, but after some time, we begun to consume it as a daily routine. The fruit juices (especially mango) were awesome. We never miss any juice intake. One thing I've learnt over here is that the fruits which were used for making the juices were very fresh, not adding other sweetening syrups. Indian food will be unforgettable for us. I would take this opportunity to thank the canteen staffs for assisting us on our meal. Besides food, we would like to thank the transport team for providing us transport throughout this internship.

Lastly, we would like to express our deepest apologize to management, academic staffs, optometrist for all the inconvenience that we had or may caused for the past 4 months.

Thank you.

Regards,
Malaysian Optometry Interns/Batch 8, Twintech