Internship at Levit Dermatology, Laser, and Cosmetic Surgery Center

MICHELLE VOLIS
Why Did I Choose to Shadow At A Dermatology Clinic?

- To shadow in a specialty that I wanted to learn more about
- To observe invasive and more complex procedures
- To learn new medical terminology
- To familiarize myself with medical instruments, medications, and machinery
- To witness and understand proper bedside manners
- To experience patient interactions in the clinical setting
- To form connections with the doctors and staff members
Internship Overview

i. Shadowed two dermatologists, a nurse practitioner, and a physician assistant

ii. Observed surgical procedures such as Mohs surgery and facial procedures such as acne lasers

iii. Became familiar with medical terminology and how to identify malignant epithelial cells under the microscope

iv. Worked with head dermatologist to write clinical research papers on case studies

v. Learned how to properly sterilize instruments and take patients’ vitals

vi. Translated to the Russian language whenever needed
Some of My Favorite Procedures I Observed

- **Mohs surgery** - technique to remove cancerous cells from the skin one layer at a time for the purpose of preserving healthy tissue

- **Blepharoplasty** - surgery to repair droopy eyelids

- **Radio Frequency Laser** to remove scars from a breast implant

- **Glomus tumor removal surgery** (interesting case study)

Lesion was cauterized post tumor removal

Interrupted ethilon sutures were utilized
Benefits of My Internship

- Connections
- Knowledge
- Confidence
- Shadowing Hours
- Skills
- Mentoring
How Did I Acquire My Internship?

- Worked on my resume with the Career Development Office at NSU
- Searched online for local medical offices and practices
- Narrowed down the list of practices by coming up with reasons as to how I would personally benefit from interning specifically there
- Reached out to those offices providing my resume and reasoning as to why I am passionate about shadowing at their office
- Explained to the offices that got back to me why I would be a good intern and what skills I have to offer (Ex. being able to speak Russian fluently)
The Importance of An Internship As A Pre-Health Student

a) Crucial to see if the healthcare field is really what you want to pursue

b) You can write about your experiences in your personal statement

c) Important to have shadowing hours when applying to graduate school

d) Meaningful connections in the healthcare field can make a difference

e) A reference letter from a medical professional makes you a more competitive applicant