The Bilateral Medical Exchange:

The Brown Kenya Program is a bilateral medical exchange program between the Alpert School of Medicine (Providence, RI, USA) and the Moi University School of Medicine (Eldoret, Kenya). This program is a part of a large multi school consortium, ASSANTE- the American Sub Saharan Network for Teaching and Education in Medicine. Brown Medical School has been part of the consortium since 1997. The exchange includes opportunities for medical students, residents and faculty to live and work at the opposite site.

Brown to Moi Exchange:

Medical student exchange occurs as Course IM 320: Tropical Medicine in East Africa. (http://med.brown.edu/education/cl_list) This is a 4th year elective with pre-requisites noted in the course catalogue. In addition, all applicants must go through a three part application process- mandatory introductory lecture, interview and recommendation review. Students work on the medical wards side by side with their Kenyan counterparts as well as live in the student hostel (housing). Rotations are encouraged for two months; one month rotations can be requested. This course is not selected through the Brown lottery system. Due to space limitations it is advisable to contact the program as early as possible. It is not unusual for rotation slots to be filled over a year in advance. Interested students should contact the Kenya Program office early for inclusion on the potential applicants list.

Medical residents are eligible to participate in the exchange in their third year of residency. Special application maybe made for participation in the last half of the second year. Team leadership skills are critical for this rotation. The application for participation consists of three parts: mandatory introductory lecture, interview and both Residency Director as well as Chairman approval. Rotations for two months are preferred but one month rotations are acceptable. Due to space limitations early planning is encouraged; it is not unusual for slots to be filled over a year in advance. Interested residents should contact the Kenya Program office early for inclusion on the potential applicants list.

Teams are led by Brown faculty members. Faculty perform work rounds on the wards and assist in outpatient clinics to supply direct patient care. AS well, faculty give lectures to students and residents. Many faculty members may also present Ground Rounds lectures or lead morning report. Most faculty assume that the rotation is focused primarily for primary care physicians but, in fact, physicians of all training disciplines are useful and utilized. One month commitments are preferred. Attending physicians are also asked to attend the mandatory information meeting attended by all trainees.
Each school in the consortium is assigned two academic months per year. Those are the months in which housing and slots are guaranteed for that school. Other slots are at times available. The academic schedule is maintained on a decade calendar. To learn of Brown dedicated months, please contact the Kenya Program office.

Family members are encouraged to participate as well. Their role is individualized and arranged on a case by case basis.

Rotation opportunities for students other than 4th year medical students is limited but development is underway.

**Moi to Brown Exchange:**

Each year four Moi students rotate for a 6-8 week medicine rotation at Brown affiliated hospitals. Students live in program housing, with other students or with families during their rotation. They are fully integrated into ward teams at either the RIH or the Miriam Hospitals. Moi students are selected by academic merit by the Dean of Moi University School of Medicine. All costs of the exchange program for Kenyan students are borne by the Brown Kenya Program (See donation opportunities).
Post-graduate trainees in Kenya are termed registrars. Moi University presently has post graduate programs in Medicine, Paediatrics, and Family Medicine. The Brown rotation for residents is presently only in Medicine. In this program, registrars are hosted at Assante Schools for 6 months of sub-speciality rotations – 4 of which are mandatory and 2 are electives. This program strives to provide exposure to training that is not yet existent within Kenya. These rotators work fully integrated into consultative teams at the Brown affiliated hospitals. All costs of the exchange program for registrars are borne by the Brown Kenya Program (See donation opportunities).
Attending physicians are often hosted on site at Brown for selected training. These programs are funded through a variety of grants (such as the Fogarty: HTTP://fogartyscholars.org/scholars/international-clinical-research-scholars-program and CFAR: www.ltbcfar.org) and philanthropy. Please see the program manager for additional details.

Participants traveling in either direction have referred to the program as “life-changing” and “eye opening”. The majority describe participation as the “best experience in medical education that I ever had.”

For further information, please go to LINK for the program booklet or contact the program at BrownKenyaProgram@Brown.edu.