

Endocrinology  
Saint James Hospital  
Dublin, Ireland

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2002

The Endocrinology and Diabetes Department is run by two consultants, Prof. Michael Cullen ([mjcullen@tcd.ie](mailto:mjcullen@tcd.ie)) and Dr. John Nolan ([jnolan@tcd.ie](mailto:jnolan@tcd.ie)) and a full team of other doctors. Elective students participate in 3 outpatient clinics each week. There are two diabetes clinics each week in which a total of 50-60 patients are seen in each clinic. There is also one general endocrinology clinic each week, where you see a wide variety of endocrinology patients. In each clinic, students work with the senior consultant and towards the end of the rotation have the opportunity to see patients on your own.

Students are encouraged to attend weekly endocrine conferences. Students are also encouraged to round with the team on the wards a few times a week and get a good feel for the practice of Medicine in Ireland. I learned a lot about managing diabetes and saw some very rare endocrine manifestations. I saw lots of patients on the wards and freshened up my history/physical skills before I start my intern year. The doctors taught me a lot and it was an extremely friendly environment. I felt very comfortable walking from department to department in the hospital and checking different things out. It was very worthwhile seeing how medicine is practiced in another country.

I chose this hospital because my girlfriend was out in Ireland at the time and it would give me a chance to spend some time with her and complete a rotation. I chose St. James' Hospital because it has an outstanding reputation in Ireland and across Europe for quality teaching and high patient load. The contact information is as above. It was a fabulous experience and I think all students should do a rotation abroad to give you a better perspective on the state of the health care in this country.