

## **RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH PROGRAM-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**

In addition to the general travel risks outlined in the Study Abroad Risk Advisory, this program Ghana-Pediatric Care and Reproductive Health (hereinafter “Program”) has specific activities which may pose a heightened level of risk for participants. UC Davis Study Abroad provides this information so that students can make an informed decision about consenting to participate in the Program. Participants in the Ghana – Pediatric Care and Reproductive Health program will be expected to participate in the activities below.

If participants do not want to participate in an activity, they must inform the Faculty Leader or Program Coordinator immediately and ask to opt out. In some cases, an activity may be a required in order to participate on the Program (e.g. travel to another site). In these instances, participants wishing to opt out may not be able to participate in the Program at all and may need to choose another program. Study Abroad will try to keep opt out decisions confidential, but due to the group nature of certain activities (such as group travel/tours), it may be impossible for the decision to be kept confidential.

By participating in a UC Davis Study Abroad Program, participants voluntarily assume these additional associated risks, both known and unknown. If participants do not ask to opt out, UC Davis Study Abroad will assume they consent to the risks associated with participating in the activities.

• **This Program includes non-traditional motorized transportation** both during Program hours and/or as the primary means of transportation for students during free time via

- Private car-for-hire (similar to taxis, but operated by regulated or unregulated private drivers)
- Private motorcoach or van-for-hire (similar to a small public bus but may be operated by regulated or unregulated private drivers)

This form of transportation is a common form of public transportation in the country abroad but may have limited or no governmental regulation. This means vehicles may or may not be inspected, drivers may or may not be licensed or certified, drivers may or may not have insurance, and safety standards (if they exist) may be significantly lower than those in the U.S.

• This Program includes non-traditional non-motorized transportation both during Program hours and/or as the primary means of transportation for students during free time via (select all that apply):

- Bicycle
- Extended walking or hiking of approximately 3-5 miles

This form of transportation is a common or elective form of public transportation in the country abroad but may have limited or no governmental regulation. This means that equipment or animals may or may not be inspected, that I may be at risk for injury due to contact with animals or their behavior, and that this form of transportation may require my own physical exertion.

• **This Program may include water-based recreational activities such as snorkeling or swimming.** Water sports and activities include elevated risk of injury or death due to weather or water conditions (currents, riptides, storms, lightning, etc.), drowning, hypothermia, equipment failure, contact with a water-borne bacteria or virus, as well as other water-based injuries. Travelers who participate in these activities must be able to swim, even if floatation devices are provided. A lifeguard may not be present at the activity site. Travelers assume additional responsibility for assessing their own comfort and risk tolerance related to prevailing water conditions and equipment on site.

• **This Program includes hiking and/or camping.** **Hiking and/or camping** includes additional risk of injury or death related to physical exertion, accident, or exposure to insects/animals, the environment or weather. These activities are supervised, travelers will be provide with necessary equipment and will take place in relatively safe locations, but weather and environmental conditions are unpredictable and can change quickly. Travelers may be required to: hike/walk for distances of a few miles; hike/walk over uneven, slippery, inclining/declining, or rocky terrain (which increases risk of falls, accidents); carry or lift gear or supplies; shelter in tents/sleeping bags; share in group cooking/cleaning/camp preparation activities; and tolerate mild but possibly uncomfortable weather conditions (moderately hot or cold temperatures, rain, wind, very high or very low humidity, periods of sun without shade, etc.) While preventative measures are taken, travelers are nevertheless at elevated risk for physical injury, and exposure to water-borne illnesses, disease carrying insects, or poisonous plants or animals.

• **This Program requires the use of public transportation.** Travelers on this Program will be required to utilize public transportation (buses, trains, taxis, etc.) as one of the primary means of conveyance. Travelers may be provided with transportation passes as part of their Program fees. Public transportation services are regulated by local governments and are typically held to minimum standards of repair, safety, timely service and accessibility. Public transportation is often very safe and, in some areas, is the only means of transportation. However, local regulations may differ or be less than those for public transportation in the U.S. Use of public transportation include the risk of injury from accident (including operator negligence), transit delays, fines or penalties for improper use, impacts or shutdowns related to worker strikes, petty theft and assault, and minimal but elevated risk from terrorist activities.

**This program includes activities in the vicinity of dangerous and dynamic natural phenomena.** This program includes low-risk activities such as walking which take place around higher-risk geologic activity or natural phenomena (such as beaches) that may have fewer public safeguards or warnings as in the United States. There is an elevated risk of injury to travelers who are not aware of their surroundings. For example, travelers may hike near cliffs, crevasses, fissures, rivers, waterfalls, oceans, lagoons, active volcanoes, and hot geysers that have minimal or no public barriers to prevent injury and which could cause substantial risk of bodily injury or death to the individual who is not aware of their surroundings. Warning signs may be minimal or non-existent. The required activities are supervised and precautionary warnings will be provided but students must remain alert, exercise caution and be aware of their surroundings at all times. Additionally, these geologic phenomena can undergo rapid and unexpected changes at any moment, such as earthquakes or eruptions, which are unpreventable.

**This program includes higher risk associated by participating in clinical rotations on the program:** Students must be fully aware of the risk when working in local clinics. The program does not include work with needles but should students find themselves in situations where needles are present, they must not touch or otherwise be involved in procedures. Nevertheless, medical environments can be fast-paced and chaotic at times so the risk of injury related to needle-stick or other injury is elevated. Even if students have had experience in providing vaccinations or drawing blood, students are prohibited from handling any sharp objects, such as syringes, or taking part in any activities involving sharp objects while on the program. UC Davis and CFHI have well established and standardized emergency procedures in place in the very unlikely event of a needle-stick or any other injuries where you could be exposed to bloodborne pathogens. The on-site CFHI Medical Director will follow the established procedures and provide necessary assistance, such as testing or provision of the standard post-exposure prophylaxis anti-retroviral drug regimen recommended depending on the type of exposure and source. If you are injured or exposed to a needle-stick during the clinical rotation, you

must immediately report the incident to a supervisor and contact (or ask someone to contact) UC Davis program staff to help facilitate treatment.