

Green project essay

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### 1. My life in Milwaukee

It was a great opportunity for me to visit a hospital in America for one month. There, I met Pr. Kim in transplant surgery team. While shadowing him, I participated in ward rounding, transplant surgery, and conferences. I previously had some interest in surgery, so this experience was very meaningful.

Milwaukee was a nice place to stay. I found a convenient place to stay very close to the hospital. The hospital was in 10minutes from my place by walk and grocery store, bus stop, some restaurants were in the vicinity. The host of my place was a nice person, so I can stay comfortable there as my home. Milwaukee is not a big city, but still there are many spots to visit. The thing I enjoyed the most was beer of Milwaukee. I went to several breweries and tasted many kinds of delicious beer. I also loved the lake Michigan. I enjoyed biking the coast of the lake. It was very refreshing and blew out my stress.

### 2. What I learned in Milwaukee

There are significant differences in transplant system between South Korea and America. In Korea, most of transplant surgeries are based on living donors. In contrary, the majority of transplants in America are deceased donor transplants. In Korea, the need for deceased donors is increasing recently, because there are many patients who need transplants waiting for donors. Therefore, by learning the system of American transplant surgery, we can find some ways to improve deceased donor transplants in Korea. That was the reason I chose Wisconsin medical college and Froedtert hospital, which has great experience about transplant surgery.

In Milwaukee, I have many chances to participate in liver or kidney transplant surgeries. UNOS plays a principal role in American transplant surgery, which is a national institute and manage whole American transplants. This organization divides American territory by

nation-region-unit. If there is a patient in one unit, he or she would find a donor in the same unit. However, if the patient's disease is severe, donor in another unit but same region can provide organs to the patient. To score the severity of a patient's illness, MELD score is usually used for liver transplants. MELD score is composed of PT, bilirubin and creatinine. This scoring system provides systematic approach for procuring and distributing organs. Korea lacks of this kind of scoring system, so patients who can get organs are decided totally by physicians. We must find some way to make our transplant system more systematic and justifiable.

### 3. Thanks for the Green project scholarship

I feel very grateful for the Green project scholarship for giving me the chance to visit American and learn American medicine. I will use what I learned from this experience to improve Korean medical system. In the future, I will be sure to donate something to give medical students great chance to study American medicine. Once again, thank you very much.