
“International medicine” is a term that covers a wide range of physician involvement. It encompasses many areas of practice, as well as far-reaching services—from providing training to underserved communities.

I have been involved in various aspects of international medicine for a number of years. One of the most challenging aspects of working in this field is the lack of information. There have been no comprehensive resources to help individuals identify projects in international medicine that have been successfully completed versus those that are ongoing. Neither has there been a reliable resource to assist in identifying practitioners in my field, anesthesia, who are involved in such efforts. Because I became involved in international medicine largely through trial and error, I see an important role for Role of Anesthesiologists in Global Health: Underserved Areas of the World. It serves as a guide for anesthesiologists who aspire to take on a role in international medicine.