



My career aspiration is to become a surgeon, possibly with a specialty of cardiothoracic or orthopedic surgery. To complete my internship experience, I was paired with multiple medical professionals. I spent my first week with Dr. Deborah Price, a nephrologist, at a dialysis center. I then spent two weeks with Dr. Trevor Greene, a cardiologist, at the Baker-Gilmour Cardiovascular Institute. Lastly, I spent two weeks with Dr. Ralph Ryzk, an orthopedic surgeon, located at various offices throughout the city of Jacksonville.

With Dr. Price, I discovered so much about the process of dialysis. I mainly observed her checking in on her patients, learning how to interact with them from her lovely bedside manner. With Dr. Greene, I was able to watch an electrophysiology study of the heart and a pacemaker replacement. I learned so much about the electrical function of the heart, and I also was able to understand the difference between a day working in the clinic versus in the hospital. Finally, with Dr. Rizk, I discovered my interest in orthopedic surgery. I felt most fascinated by his work, and after watching him, I realized orthopedic surgery may be a good fit for me in the future. I watched him give steroid shots to aid with arthritis pain, remove staples from previous surgeries that he had done, and aspirate a swollen knee. While I found my experience with Dr. Rizk the most enjoyable, each rotation provided me with an opportunity to learn more about the medical profession.

The AnnieRuth Foundation's Summer Internship Program will surely be instrumental in preparing me for future success. Not only is this program an excellent addition to any résumé, but it also provides students with an opportunity to hone in on what specific career they are interested in. I entered the program with my mind set on the specialty of cardiology, but I left it with a new passion for orthopedics. The AnnieRuth Foundation allowed me to have this wonderful experience, but it also did not throw me straight into the workplace. I was able to attend business seminars to learn about workplace etiquette among so many other things. Any rising junior or senior should definitely apply for upcoming years!