

Medicine has been one of the career choices I have been thinking of since I began studying natural sciences. Apart from the intellectual stimulation natural sciences provides, it was during my volunteering experiences, when I realised I would like to pursue a career in medicine where I can have the opportunity to care for others

Since elementary school I have been participating in natural science competitions and recognise I have a strong affinity for solving scientific problems. In chemistry, I reached top ten positions at the national chemistry competitions all my high school years. I was part of the Hungarian team at the 1st Olympiad of Metropolises where the team won a silver and I individually earned a bronze medal. I was selected to be a part of the Hungarian team at the 52nd Mendeleev Olympiad. In biology, I reached the final stage of the national competitions the last two years, and I was 10th at the selection tournament for the 2017 IBO. Most of these competitions included laboratory exercises, which I particularly enjoyed as we had to solve practical problems and had the chance to perform gel-electrophoresis or organic syntheses. I most liked the competitions requiring teamwork, as they taught me how to think together with and understand others in stressful situations.

This year I was selected to take part in a talent program in biomedical sciences called Szeged Scientist Academy. I took part in lectures on varied topics and had laboratory workshops regarding mostly molecular biology and dissections. My final essay was about antibiotic-resistant bacteria, where I learned that resistance to certain antibiotics might happen after a single or multiple mutations (e.g. *S. aureus* and *N. gonorrhoeae*, respectively), and I was particularly intrigued by the battle in developing new antibiotics. This April we participated in a conference held by B. Sakmann who spoke about his patch clamp technique and A. Konnerth who talked about his recent research on Alzheimer's disease. This September I was invited to a conference held at the University of Pécs where faculty gave lectures about the spatial map of the hippocampus and the entorhinal cortex, and I had a chance to learn more about neural oscillations. Additionally, I attend Milestone Institute, where I have taken courses in molecular biology and physiology.

To satisfy my curiosity towards clinical work and my motive to care for patients, I organised visits to departments of local hospitals where I had the chance to observe surgeries, learn the basics of imaging technology, such as CT and MRI, and perform nursing tasks. I found the latter especially useful as it granted me insight to "real" patient care and handling critical situations, as well as giving me practical skills like inserting PVC's or taking blood. While performing other tasks like changing diapers and feeding, I had the opportunity to experience how comforting or providing information to patients feels, which highlighted how rewarding this profession is.

I also find it important to pursue activities outside my main field of interest. I greatly enjoy learning languages; I speak German, English, French and Italian. I also play the piano and the violin and regularly give concerts. At my school, I helped organise the fresher's camps and school festivals.

My hospital experience made it clear to me that despite all the challenges I observed and was told about, medicine is what I would like to study and work in. Universities in the UK are among the best in the world with extraordinary professors and students. I strongly believe that the interaction with these people would be very motivating and stimulating, thus, I would like to be the part of such an environment.