

If given the option to watch a leg amputation, I am fairly confident – most people would refuse. Standing in the operating theatre observing this surgery at the age of 13 not only awoke my interest for medicine, but also made me think of the responsibilities and challenges of being a doctor.

At around the same time I started studying natural sciences, and my passion for these subjects reinforced my intention to follow this career path. I won several regional and national competition in sciences. My two best results were 3rd place at the chemistry OKTV which included students a year above me, and 1st place at the Irinyi national chemistry competition, where I was honored for being the best problem solving student and the absolute winner of all categories.

I participated in international competitions and earned a silver medal at the European Union Science Olympiad. I successfully assigned tasks to my teammates and encouraged collaboration, recognizing that in stressful situations there is a need for a team leader and seamless cooperation. In 2018, I got the honour of representing Hungary at the International Mendeleev Chemistry Olympiad and I qualified for next year's competition as well.

I have continually sought opportunities to visit hospitals and learn what this profession entails. One of my most memorable experiences was seeing a dissection of a cadaver with arteriosclerosis. It was fascinating to see how such a small, natural process could cause death like the deposition of cellular wastes in the intima of the arterial wall. I also spent time in a pediatric oncology unit where I saw the process of chemotherapy - from making the dilutions to communicating the possible side-effects to parents and children. I observed the complex teamwork between doctors and nurses when a child had anaphylaxis during L-asparaginase therapy. It was heart-breaking to see the emotional impact on families, but inspiring to witness their strength and support of their child.

In 2016 I was among the 300 students who were selected out of 20,000 for a national talent programme, the Templeton programme. I visited a cancer research laboratory where I dissected a mouse. After taking slices of different organs, we painted them with H&E and fluorescent stain, and studied under a light microscope the difference between normal and cancerous tissues. This year, I attended a research camp at the University of Debrecen, where we were investigating the stability and relaxivity of gadolinium-complexes in order to get a deeper understanding about their role as MRI contrast agents. It was fascinating to see how small changes, for example in a ligand of the complex, can cause a huge difference in image quality. Last year, I was admitted to Milestone Institute, an English language talent programme. I attended several university level biology and chemistry modules which gave me a deeper knowledge and a desire to know more.

I have been volunteering for an organization that helps inpatient children with their studies, whereby I created learning materials for biochemistry. Not only could I improve my scientific knowledge, but I also deepened my understanding of how to deal with patients and explain scientific material effectively. I also regularly visited my local hospital to play games with children which highlighted how important the human and emotional element is within the medical profession.

In addition to my theoretical and clinical preparation for medical school, I have managed to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle. I did dance and synchronized swimming for 12 years. I competed not only at the international and regional level, but also worked in a team of seven, and learned that we could achieve our goals only with full cooperation.

With my skills, knowledge and motivation to learn, I hope to study Medicine at a top university in the UK. This would provide a stimulating environment to fulfill my dream and become an excellent doctor.