Zach Pfannes

Econ

Health Care of the US vs. Costa Rica

While in Costa Rica, I got to experience with my peers a beautiful country, a unique culture, and meet interesting people. Unlike my peers, however, I was given an additional experience in this country: The healthcare industry.

My injury happened suddenly, with my ankle rolling as I stepped down into a rocky unpaved parking lot. The diagnosis in Costa Rica was a high ankle sprain, which was confirmed back in the United States and a break in my foot and ligament tear were also found after further examination. Although I am grateful for the things provided to me by the Costa Rican health care system while I was there, I am glad I got to receive examination back in the United States. It is easy to say the United States has a more advanced healthcare system, but there are pros and cons in the industries of both the US and Costa Rica.

**Pros:**

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| United States | Costa Rica |
| * X-Ray systems in every city * Plethora of medical supplies * Coverage with Insurance * Specialized Facilities | * Medic in all regions * Universal Healthcare * Pharmacies with medicine and supplies in all regions |

**Cons:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| United States | Costa Rica |
| * Expensive Insurance * High uninsured rate * Care changes based on laws passed * Many private companies controlling medicine costs | * Hospitals are spread sparsely in the country * Pharmacies not always in stock * Free check ups abused by immigrants * Certain facilities not always available |