



ESGO Traveling Fellowship Fellows Report

Name of Fellow: Zohreh Ketabi
Position at Home Institution: Fellow
Home Institution (full address): Department of Gynecology, Copenhagen
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Head of the Department: Dr. Lene Lundvall
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Name of Mentor at Host Institution: Professor Frédéric Amant
Position at Host Institution: Head of Center Gynecologic Oncology
Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Institution (full address): Antoni van Leeuwenhoek-Netherlands Cancer
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Dates of Fellowship: 1.2.2019-30.4.2019

Detailed description on Teaching received:

During my visit, I was planned to be in the operating theatre 3-4 days a week. I have repeatedly seen the open surgical treatment of advanced peritoneal carcinomas in patients with ovarian cancer and patients with gastrointestinal cancer, who received HIPEC. I had the opportunity to perform the surgery myself with the supervision of senior consultants, and I assisted several ovarian cancer-surgeries, +/- HIPEC, and followed the patients' postoperative progress. Also, I have seen and assisted several surgeries of the colon cancer patients, who were planned to receive HIPEC. I visited the Gynaecological department at the Amsterdam Medical Centre to observe the open Wertheim hysterectomy, where the cervical cancer patients were treated as a result of the LACS-study. In addition, I attended the weekly multidisciplinary team conference, which was very instructive, and I had the opportunity to see the patients' imaging studies and to learn from each case discussion and subsequently join their surgery.

Goals accomplished:

My main goal for the visit was to learn from the team's experience with HIPEC treatment. Therefore, the primary focus for my stay was to participate in open explorative laparotomy. I participated in approximately 17 cases of explorative laparotomy, of which the major part was primary surgery of patients with advanced stage ovarian cancer who received HIPEC or interval surgery after NACT. Furthermore, I participated in a couple of total vulvectomy with advanced plastic surgery, one total pelvic exenteration due to recurrent of vulva/Bartholin cancer and one open Wertheim hysterectomy.

Achievement in clinical practice:

My main achievement throughout my stay was learning the HIPEC procedure and expand my surgical skills through quite a few surgical procedures with a constant focus on my personal evaluation of my learning and training process during my 3 months fellowship. I look forward to applying these skills to my own patients.

It has, also, been really inspiring to experience a health system built on a different working model: a different organizational form, planning procedures and protocols. Thus, it has been of particular interest to experience the local MDT and the daily close, productive cooperation between the gastro-surgeons, urologist and the gynae-oncologist practiced at this place with all the benefits for the patient care entailed by keeping patients from the above specialties within the same ward.

Presentations eg. at seminar or meetings: None

Research performed and outcome: None

Publications: None

Problems encountered with a critical evaluation of the fellowship experience as a whole:
None

Future plan on returning to home:

To apply what I have learned in surgery to own patients, and particularly my experiences from the HIPEC treatment. Soon, we in Denmark are going to participate in a multicenter HIPEC-study in collaboration with among others the Amsterdam group from my host department, and this provides me a welcome opportunity to apply and explore my experience from my fellowship to own patients, my usual working conditions and colleagues.

Overall evaluation and comment of the fellowship:

My three months at the gynecological department at the AvL-NKI have been a most professionally instructive and refreshing experience. The Dutch and the Danish health system have many similarities, nevertheless, one will always find tasks that are planned and executed in a different way. Consequently, you will always bring back new insights after staying at another institute. I have had the pleasure of working with a team of very dedicated colleagues in a constructively edifying collegial atmosphere, where the training of the younger colleagues as well as the multi-disciplinary team conferences (MDTs) had a high priority in the weekly work-schedule of the place. Participation in the MDTs has brought me both great professional

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pleasure and feeding/challenge— I have learned a lot from the discussions in each of the many cases.

It has been uplifting to meet new challenges and a high professional standard - but not the least to be assured that our own daily practice “back home” fulfills the highest standards just as well. The interesting part being the possible paths to get there.

Finally, I bring my greatest thanks to professor Amant and his staff, and in particular to dr. Christianne Lok for finding room for me in their busy schedule. I owe them all a lot of thanks for their commitment to, their time, patience and collegial approach in making this fellowship a stimulating, evolving and valuable experience for me. I would like to thank ESGO Accreditation & Fellowship committee and Helena Opolecka (Account Manager, ESGO).

Date: 01-10-2019

Applicant's name ZOHREH KETABI

Signature:



Enjoy learning with ESGO!