ESGO Traveling Fellowship
Fellows Report

Name of Fellow: Irine Gagua
Position at Home Institution: Gynecologic Oncology Surgeon
Home Institution (full address): Research Institute Of Clinical Medicine Todua Clinic. 13 Tevdoare Mgvdele St., Tbilisi 0112, Georgia
Head of the Department: Head of Surgery department Malkhaz Kokosadze
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Name of Mentor at Host Institution: Prof. Anna Fagotti
Position at Host Institution:
Professor in Gynecologic Oncology, post-graduate School in Obstetrics and Gynecology,
Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Rome, Italy
Attending Gynecologic Oncologist and Surgeon, Policlinico A. Gemelli Foundation, Rome, Italy

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Dates of Fellowship: September 2-27, 2019

Detailed description on Teaching received:
It is my great honor to be the recipient of ESGO travelling fellowship, September 2-27 in Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS., Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Rome, Italy. Every day of my being in Gemelli was the great event because I was involved in the magnificent and unforgettable process of diagnostics, treatment and management of oncogynecological patients by the world’s leading and decision

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making professors and professionals. I was involved in every step of management of the patients. Every day I was involved in the routine life of the department. I had the great pleasure to be the part of the great experience that is held in Gemelli. I had the chance to participate in radical gynecologic surgeries – open, minimally invasive and robotic. I had a chance to understand the surgery of ovarian cancer as well, which consisted not only with the pelvis part but also upper abdomen surgery- liver mobilization, stripping of the diaphragm and other peritoneal surfaces, bowel resection, splenectomy, partial hepectomy and etc.. All ovarian cancer cases were started with diagnostic laparoscopy in order to understand disease spread using Fagotti score and predict complete cytoreduction in advanced ovarian cancer. It was also very interesting to understand all the steps of radical hysterectomy and pelvic/para aortic lymphadenectomy, also understand the concept of sentinel lymph node detection using ICG. It was very important to understand the role of hypertermic intraoperative chemotherapy (HIPEC) for advanced ovarian cancer with surgical debulking.

Besides, I also had a chance to observe the work of early Clinical Trials Center where there were patients recruited for Phase I and II clinical trials, discussed with experts on clinical trial protocols.

It was also very useful to observe the work in the ultrasound department where ultrasound was used as a part of staging procedure, pre operative evaluation and post operative management of complications. Also it was very interesting to observe the intra operative ultrasound scan usage.

In the gynecologic oncology ward I had a wonderful opportunity to assess pre- and post-operative management of gynecologic oncology patients and chemotherapy complications and palliative care.

Goals accomplished:
1. Participating in radical surgical surgeries – open, laparoscopy, robotics
3. Understanding a laparoscopic score to predict optimal cytoreduction in advanced ovarian cancer (Fagotti score)
4. Better understanding of multidisciplinary team work and decision making of gynecologic cancer patients
5. Enhancement knowledge on the pre-operative work up for gynecological cancer, including available imaging modalities
6. Better understanding of surgical anatomy and anatomical variations; surgical technique; management of common surgical complications.
7. Understanding the role of hypertermic intraoperative chemotherapy (HIPEC) for advanced ovarian cancer with surgical debulking.

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8. Understanding the clinical protocols with the experts in gynecologic oncology field.

**Achievement in clinical practice:**
Being the member of Gynecologic Surgery team in Gemelli allowed me to widen my knowledge and experience in the field of management and correct decision making of gynecologic oncology patients. I learned a lot and improved my skills in ovarian cancer debulking surgery, laparoscopic lymphadenectomy (pelvic and paraaortic), radical hysterectomy. Proper management of common surgical and chemotherapy complications, also pre- and post-operative management of gynecologic oncology patients.

**Presentations eg. at seminar or meetings:**
It was great opportunity to be present in the lecture of ESGO President, Professor Denis Querleu, held in Policlinico Agostino Gemelli IRCCS on the topic: Querleu – Morrow classification of radical hysterectomy.

**Research performed and outcome:**
No academic research was performed

**Publications:**
No publications were done

**Problems encountered with a critical evaluation of the fellowship experience as a whole:**
I had absolutely NO problems at all. The whole team including nurses, fellows, doctors, professors were trying to be of any help to me. Even though everything was in Italian language everyone explained all the cases in English. I was in great comfort and felt like home with them.

**Future plan on returning to home:**
I want to implement the knowledge gained during my fellowship in my home institution.

**Overall evaluation and comment of the fellowship:**
I am very proud and happy that I have been selected as the recipient of ESGO travelling fellowship grant and had the opportunity to visit Policlinico Agostino Gemelli IRCCS. The whole fellowship was of great success because the knowledge and experience gained there is of great importance and necessity for me.

I am very thankful to Prof. Giovanni Scambia, my great mentor Prof. Anna Fagotti, ESGO fellows Nicolo Bizzarri and Valentina Ghirardi for being the warmest and the

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most attentive to me. Special thanks to the whole team of the Gynecology Oncology, each doctor and professor who were always ready to help and explain all cases of the patients and all the steps performed during the surgery.

And finally special thanks to ESGO fellowship and accreditation committee for giving me this unforgettable chance of learning and training with ESGO.

In Tbilisi, Georgia
24.10.2019

Applicant's name (in capital letters) IRINE Gagua
Signature: 

Enjoy learning with ESGO!

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