



ESGO Traveling Fellowship Fellows Report

Name of Fellow: Dr. Ephraim Okwudiri OHAZURIKE

Position at Home Institution: Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist

Home Institution (full address): Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Idi Araba Lagos

Head of the Department: Prof B. B. Afolabi

Email: eohazurike@yahoo.com

Name of Mentor at Host Institution: Prof Christina Fotopoulou

Position at Host Institution: Consultant Gynaecologic oncologist

Institution (full address): Hammersmith Hospital, Ducane Road, West London

Email: c.fotopoulou@imperial.ac.uk

Dates of Fellowship: 04-11-2019 to 31-01-2020

Detailed description on Teaching received:

The main clinic is on Mondays and patients are seen based on referral from their general practitioners. At this clinic, patients are seen and planned for surgery as well as followed up after surgery. While the preoperative patients are counseled on the surgeries and what to expect, the post operative patients are taken through the surgical findings and extent of surgery, adjuvant treatment options and what to expect going forward. Some patients are referred for either chemotherapy or radiotherapy while others are simply followed up.

There is another clinic on Fridays at both Hammersmith Hospital and Charing Cross Hospital. The Friday Clinic at Hammersmith Hospital is the ovarian cyst clinic where patients with suspicious looking ovarian tumours are referred for ultrasound scan and evaluation for risk of malignancy.

At Charing Cross Hospital, I was privileged to be in clinic with Prof Michael Seckl, a renowned medical oncologist with interest in germ cell tumours and trophoblastic disease.

Theatre sessions are on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The theatre sessions

were always a stimulating time. I was allowed to scrub in and assist some of the surgeries and I could say that I followed and learnt the techniques of debulking surgeries and advanced gynaecological oncology cancer surgeries. Prof Fotopoulou is a rare talent and very skillful! I saw a lot of bowel resection and anastomosis as well.

Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) meetings holds every Friday afternoon, all patients with gynaecological cancers are discussed and plan for treatment is put in place. This I must say is where treatment decisions are made before patients are seen in clinic for further evaluation and treatment. The multidisciplinary team consists of gynaecologic oncologists, medical oncologists, clinical oncologists, pathologists, radiologists and specialist nurses. The patients are reviewed again at the MDT if there is a new development in the clinical condition that will necessitate a change in treatment plan.

Ward round takes place everyday. The patients on the ward are seen early in the morning before the day's activities.

Goals accomplished :

I learnt how to evaluate patient, determine fitness and plan for surgery. I also learnt that communication with patient is very vital in cancer treatment.

Ultrasound features of malignant and borderline ovarian tumours became clearer.

My knowledge of germ cell tumours, trophoblastic diseases is broadened.

I learnt how to perform debulking surgeries and management of patient in the immediate post operative period.

I am very keen to engage with the bowel surgeons in my centre to start bowel resection till I can confidently do it on my own

The need to expand our MDT back home and to discuss all patients with gynaecological cancer before commencement of treatment.

I learnt post operative management of patients with Enhance recovery after surgery.

Achievement in clinical practice:

I am better in the area of communication with patient and management of patients' expectations.

My surgical skill has improved and I am working toward engaging the bowel surgeons to perform bowel resection and anastomosis.

We are implementing enhance recovery after surgery in my centre. We have had a presentation on it already since I got back.

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:

It was a good learning experience for me. Coming from a developing nation, it was quite expensive despite the ESGO scholarship. However the experienced gathered from the fellowship is invaluable and it is worth more than every penny spent

Future plan on returning to home:

I hope to be able to do more in term of surgeries and also able to help my patients more. I hope to be able to pass the knowledge I acquired to others in my vicinity. I hope to be able to do more research following the surgeries and patient management. I hope to engage the bowel surgeons about bowel surgeries when necessary Work toward expanding our MDT and ensuring that no gynaecological cancer patient is managed outside of the decision of the MDT.

Overall evaluation and comment of the fellowship:

It is a laudable program and it should encouraged. More people from the resource poor and resource limited countries should be encouraged to take advantage.

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Date 17-02-2020

Applicant's name EPHRAIM O. OHAZURIKE

Signature:



Enjoy learning with ESGO!