

**Report from Dr Danijela Soprenic and Dr Vanja Soprenic, from Clinical Centre Banja Luka, Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina, regarding two-week clinical attachment in The Rose Centre, St. George's Hospital London, in November 2014.**

Thanks to the Trustees of The Symposium Mammographicum and their Bursary we had a great honour to undertake the two-week clinical attachment at the Rose Centre, St. George's Hospital, London, in the period from 17th to 28th November 2014. This exceptional clinical attachment completely fulfilled our goals and we are more than satisfied with our education.

During our two week placement we were able to learn and observe a wide range of diagnostic procedures and processes in the field of breast imaging and breast interventions. These included:

- observing the first and second mammography films reading,
- understanding the protocol used for film reading,
- facts about the recall rate and the significance of recalling patients,
- observing the Arbitration team and decision making,
- dealing with the difficult clinical cases from their practice,
- observing huge number of ultrasound or stereotactic guided core biopsies, FNAs, aspirations, drainages, vacuum biopsies, vacuum excisions, marker placements, placing of marking wires,...

This attachment also gave us unique opportunity of following a breast cancer patient through her treatment pathway inside the Rose Centre which is the best possible example of patient centred unit. We are more than grateful for the opportunity Symposium Mammographicum gave us to work even for this short time in such great environment.

The best experience we have brought home is the knowledge and value of attending their MDMs - multidisciplinary team meetings, the importance of correlating the abnormalities on mammography with histology and how the test results influence breast cancer decision making. We also learned the value of shared decision making and allowing the patient to make informed decision about adequate treatment which is best for them.

We have also been able to identify the importance of appropriate communication skills, of showing empathy to breast cancer patients and their particular and very difficult situation. This educational experience will help us in reducing patient's anxiety and improving patients' ability to comply with undergoing procedures. This will improve our personal and professional role as radiologist, what will eventually result in higher satisfaction level and a positive outcome for both the patients and the healthcare system.

The time we spent in the Rose Centre provided us with a wealth of knowledge that we are able to share with our colleagues in the hope that it will be of benefit to the screening and assessment service that we provide, what will bring benefit to our breast disease patients, to our Clinical Centre and finally to our Healthcare System.

To summarize our attachment in the Rose Centre, it was a fantastic experience both educationally and socially and we would definitely recommend others colleagues to take part in Symposium Mammographicum Bursary and gain chance to repeat our wonderful experience.

Our sincerest thanks go to the Trustees of The Symposium Mammographicum for allowing us this great opportunity.

We would like to express our gratitude to Mr. Andrew Tillbrook for all his time and assistance and for his kind and always useful advices.

We want to thank once again to dear Dr Louise Wilkinson who was the best teacher we could get, helping us a lot with her wide knowledge and great advices.

Many thanks to dear Elisabeth, Anuma, Charul, Mary, Dr Mamatha Reddy, Dr Lisanne Khoo, Dr Steven Allen and Dr Heller and all other colleagues for everything.

Thank you all for your support.

Sincerely yours,

Danijela Soprenic.

and

Vanja Soprenic

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