

## **BURSARY REPORT on attending SM 2016 Conference**

**Report from Dr Danijela Soprenic and Dr Vanja Soprenic, from University Clinical Centre of the Republic of Srpska, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, regarding attendance the Symposium Mammographicum 2016, in Liverpool in July 2016.**

Thanks to the Trustees of The Symposium Mammographicum and their Bursary we had a great honour to take part in a three-day conference Symposium Mammographicum, held at ACC Liverpool, in the period from 3rd to 5th July 2016. This exceptional conference completely fulfilled our goals and we are more than satisfied with how it updated our current knowledge and expertise.

Our participation at the conference was active. We submitted an abstract, whose title is "Inflammatory breast carcinoma only seen on MR imaging – Case Report", that was selected by the Symposium Mammographicum Conference Programme Committee to feature in the Guided poster Tour, which was held during the conference.

The biennial meeting was very well organised featuring a programme delivered by a distinguished faculties from the UK and overseas. Numerous national and international high profile speakers, drawn mainly from the field of mammography, covered many interesting and provoking topics relating to the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer. The event provided an update on many aspects of screening and symptomatic breast imaging. We found very interesting scientific sessions dedicated to new technologies, individualised treatments and current breast diagnostic research.

This year Symposium highlights, in our opinion, included Professor Jeremy Wolfe from Harvard University USA who delivered The Sir John Stebbings Lecture on Medical Image Perception, Professor Neb Duric from Karmanos Cancer Institute USA who talked about innovative new ultrasound approaches for identifying and screening women with high breast density and Dr Ros Given-Wilson, from St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust UK with provoking and informative closing keynote about the past and the future of breast screening addressing the major breast screening questions of our time.

As the most interesting session we would single out the one dedicated to challenging cases, with presentations from Professor Robert Mensel, Dr Philippa Young and Dr Kate Gower-Thomas.

We were delighted to attend an excellent practical workshops hosted by Hologic and Fujifilm UK covering tomosynthesis biopsy and reading. We found them extremely useful since on our new GE Senographe Essential CESM and DBT are possible following upgrades so we will learn about and start performing/reading tomosynthesis and eventually contrast-enhanced spectral mammography.

The Symposium Mammographicum programme included a great trade exhibition with 25 exhibitor stands where we looked and evaluated the latest generation of

mammography and ultrasound machines, tools, accessories and other products to aid diagnosis and treatment.

It was very useful to explore the latest and advanced technologies in the field of breast imaging and interventions.

At the exhibition hall there was the poster area with 91 poster presentations providing us with great networking and learning opportunities. The last day of the conference there was the early morning guided poster tour of elected posters. My colleague Dr Danijela Soprenic presented our poster in the tour chaired by Dr Anna Murphy, Consultant Radiologist from North Yorkshire Breast Screening Service, and with pride we can say that our presentation went fine.

We have to mention a great entertainment after the Symposium gala dinner provided by The Revolvers bringing us the sounds of the 60s.

It was a great honour and pleasure to participate in this excellent event. Symposium gave us a chance to further upgrade our knowledge about the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of breast disease. It was an excellent opportunity to meet the leading experts and challenge current thinking, to hear about new developments and the future of breast imaging.

The Symposium enabled us to stay current and fulfil the requirements of continuing our professional development also demonstrating commitment to our profession.

Symposium provided us with latest information and recommendations regarding the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer, improving knowledge and performance. Bigger confidence in early detection of breast cancer and breast diseases, multidisciplinary approach in suggesting the proper further imaging method an protocol for these patients will for sure improve the survival rate of our patients, what is our mandatory goal. It will improve our personal and professional role as radiologists, what will eventually result in higher satisfaction level and a positive outcome for both the patients and the healthcare system.

In order of optimisation of everyday work and team building at our Breast Division, it is mandatory to share all the gained experience and knowledge, achieved during any kind of education. Traditional approach at our Department is CME trough weekly case reports, seminars, presentations etc. and we have to say that we have already presented our experience to other colleagues. Knowledge, the latest information and recommendations, and all experience gained at this conference we will try to implement in our Breast Division on a daily basis, hoping it will be of benefit to our breast disease patients, to our University Clinical Centre and to our Healthcare System.

We have very much enjoyed this event hoping that our interaction with our colleagues from UK and other countries will stimulate a creative exchange of ideas

and will be personally rewarding. We would warmly recommend other 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 giving us this great opportunity.

Our greatest gratitude goes to Mr. Andrew Tillbrook for all his time and help and for his friendly and useful advices. Once again we want to stress that The Symposium Mammographicum is lucky to have Mr. Tillbrook.

We want to thank once again to dear Dr Anna Murphy for chairing our poster tour in such a pleasant and friendly atmosphere.

Thank you all for your support,

Sincerely yours,

Danijela and Vanja Soprenic.