



FELLOWSHIP REPORT EBJIS 2014

I feel honored and proud to present this fellowship report. We started this prestigious fellowship in September just after the EBJIS Congress in the beautiful city of Utrecht, The Netherlands. It was in this Congress that I was introduced to the world renowned persons working in the field of infection related to Orthopaedics. I was amazed to be present in their vicinity. In a span of 3 days all important topics that we face every day in our practice and feel helpless as how to find a solution to the problem was covered.

We moved to Oxford as the first stop to visit the infection unit of Nuffield Orthopaedic centre, which is headed by Dr Martin McNally. He showed in two days why he is so famous for in treating Osteomyelitis with his versatile approach. Due to his effort I was able to present a paper in the clinic. We spend one day watching him operating osteomyelitis cases after osteosynthesis. I was impressed by his never get tired approach and I cannot expect a better host than him in my lifetime. He was equally best professionally and personally.

Our next center was Berlin where we attended a workshop on PJI chaired by Dr Andrew Trumpez and Olivier Borrens. This included hands on workshop how to make antibiotic loaded spacer for the hip using simple cost effective means. This was the high point of visiting Berlin. I recommend to organize this unique workshop at the same place as the EBJIS Congress every year.

The third center in our visit was BG clinic, Ludwigshafen. Due to illness Dr Heppert was absent but his colleague Dr Suda was equally happy and enthusiastic in receiving us. We spend a couple of days watching the treatment of PJI. In fact if Berlin was the place to learn the theory of treatment of PJI, Ludwigshafen was the place to implement those theories into practice. We visited the OR on the first day and the OPD and ward in the second day. It's quite a busy unit in the treatment of infections as it has nearly 50 beds dedicated to only infection related to Orthopaedics.

Our last place was Galleazzi institute in Milan .Prof Carlo Romano is impressive as a good researcher, Surgeon and Charming host. We spend the first day in the OR observing the some real problem in PJI when you are stuck up in a case and how to overcome it. It was a long day in the OR. Second day at Galleazzi was about research.Prof Romano showed us some of the ongoing research project including the one where he taught us a simple technique for the dislodging of bacteria from biofilm as a good alternative to sonication. On the second day we visited the lab of Dr Drago who we felt is giving a good support to Prof Romano in treating infection through his research. The trip ended with a beautiful and lovely dinner with the famous Italian wine and dishes included lovely seafood like octopus and squid, hosted by Prof Romano.

This fellowship benefitted me in ways beyond my imagination. For the first time fellow were selected outside Europe (I feel lucky!) making this society more global. The annual congress of EBJIS cleared my doubts in my everyday practice. We saw treatment that was state of the art in the various hospitals each with their unique techniques different from the others but having one common goal that is ERADICATION OF INFETION. That itself is inspiring.

We were hosted by persons who were not only good clinicians and scientist and master in their field but also great human beings.

I am proud that I am the first outside Europe to receive this prestigious fellowship. I look forward to the next EBJIS Congress in Portugal in 2015.I hope to complete the task given to me after the fellowship and present it in Estoril,Portugal.