

Jan 18, 2018

Dear Drs. McDonald, Trousdale, and M.E. Müller Foundation Board of Directors,
Dr. M. Halawi Report

Please accept my most sincere appreciation and gratitude for affording me this amazing fellowship opportunity. I started at the University College London Hospital where I spent three months under the mentorship of Mr. Johan Witt. I had a comprehensive hip experience with high-volume PAOs, hip arthroscopy, DAA hip replacement, and complex revisions. Most importantly, I developed greater appreciation and a systematic approach to young adult hip disorders. Mr. Witt is an outstanding mentor who I highly recommend for future fellows.

My second site was King Edward VII's Hospital in London with Professor Jason Cobb and Ms. Sarah Muirhead-Allwood. The experience mostly involved primary hip replacement, hip resurfacing, and unicompartmental knee replacement. It was exciting to get a first look at the first ceramic on ceramic hip resurfacing system (called H1) that Professor Cobb developed and currently being implanted as part of a clinical trial.

The third site was the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in Birmingham. My host was Mr. Derek McMinn. I was truly touched by the hospitality I received from Mr. McMinn. He is a true gentleman, skilled surgeon, and thoughtful inventor. To maximize my experience, Mr. McMinn organized for me to join his colleagues Professor Lee Jeys (orthopaedic oncologist) and Mr. Callum McBride (hip preservation surgeon) on the days he was not operating. I also had a chance to visit the Smith and Nephew factory in nearby Warwick and observe the process of BHR production.

The final stop was the Endo Klinik in Hamburg, Germany. This was a very nice culmination of the fellowship. My host was Prof. Thorsten Gehrke who is very humble and so much fun to operate with. We had great conversations over complex procedures. It was quite fascinating to be immersed in a "German factory" that is remarkable for sterile technique and efficiency. The only challenge was English not being readily spoken among a good number of the staff, but that was an incentive to learn some German terminology to get by. While Professor Gehrke was away, I mostly worked with one of his colleagues Dr. Olaf Thieme. Hamburg is a beautiful city where I got a taste of home with a large population of Lebanese immigrants and great restaurants.

I am very grateful to the ME Müller Foundation for this experience of a lifetime. The fellowship has broadened my orthopaedic training and it is a perfect culmination. I will forever cherish the experiences and the relationships developed through this fellowship.