

Pfizer Scholarship Report -2014

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My experience with the ICS Pfizer Scholarship grant has been very rewarding. I had previously spent 3 months in University of Greifswald, Germany in 2012 with Prof. Eckhard Petri. I was able to build on that experience when I was granted an opportunity to visit one of the most prestigious institutes, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical School in Baltimore, USA. I would like to thank Pfizer and International Continence Society for that opportunity.

My observership at Johns Hopkins Medical School took place for 2.5 weeks in early August 2014. The female pelvic floor reconstructive surgery unit at Johns Hopkins is an eminent unit in patient treatment and research in the field. I was very fortunate to be there. The experience was extensive and included observation of wide variety of surgical procedures including robotic assisted laparoscopic sacrocolpopexy for vault prolapse, colpocleisis, Botox injection and cystoscopy with hydrodistension with bilateral pudendal block.

I attended three different outpatient clinics: incontinence , pain and urodynamics. The protocols followed were based on scientific evidence and research. As well participation in different academic discussions was another highlight of the training on such topics as urodynamics, birth injuries and effect of pregnancy on the pelvic floor.

The pelvic physiotherapy unit at Johns Hopkins is one of the best of its kind. I was able to spend important hours of my training in the physiotherapy unit which allowed important insights into the various aspect of the discipline.

The observership helped me acquire knowledge and experience that consolidated the previous foundation I acquired in different institutes around the world. I will be able to apply these experiences for the benefit of patients of the developing world. I would like to extend heartfelt gratitude to my preceptor Dr Chi Chiung Grace Chen, Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine for accepting my application and to the International Continence Society for supporting my Pfizer Scholarship.

