

# **ICS/Pfizer Clinical Fellowship**

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## **Background and current work**

I am a doctor of urology at Ternopil Regional Oncology Clinic (Ukraine). My daily routine practice includes also the consultations of women with urological functional disorders. Besides my clinical job I am doing my PhD research work dedicated to the features of the urinary bladder of perimenopausal women. All of this motivated me to learn more in this field for my patients better care therefore I had applied for the ICS/Pfizer Clinical Fellowship.

## **Location and site**

I had a great opportunity to visit the Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) in Nashville (Tennessee, USA) which is ranked #9 in USNews among all US urological clinics (and #7 among pediatric urology clinics). I am very grateful to Prof. Roger R. Dmochowski for his invitation letter and agreement to be my mentor during the Fellowship. He is the Director of the Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Urology Fellowship Program at VUMC and the Editor-in-Chief of the journal "Neurourology and Urodynamics".

## **Expectations and Learning Objectives**

Applying on this prestigious fellowship I would like to learn the comprehensive management of female incontinence. They included the preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic and/or surgical procedures necessary for total care of these conditions and its complications. The diagnostics I was interested in included but not limited: simple and complex urodynamics (filling and voiding cystometry, uroflowmetry), cystourethroscopy etc. The conservative and surgical procedures I would like to observe (under the supervision of an attending physician faculty member) included but not limited: pessary fitting, sling procedures, periuethral injections, retropubic urethropexy, sacral neuromodulation, chemodenervation etc.

**Specific details of learning and activities whilst on placement.** I realized that my fellowship is short-term therefore I tried to be everywhere and to observe everything I could. And I achieved 99% of planned procedures! I was at outpatient clinic during urodynamic and endoscopic investigations. Also I was in operative rooms observing different surgeries and later I visited the patients in their post-operative rooms. During all this time I had a possibility to attend scientific meetings, to communicate with residents, fellows and faculties, discuss many cases with them and they all kindly answered all my questions.

## **Conclusion**

First of all I would like to thank to Prof. Roger R. Dmochowski – my mentor at VUMC. Also I appreciate very much all help and support of Ms. Tracy Griffin (ICS administrator), Ms. Edna Johnson (lead administrative assistant at VUMC) and Ms. Dantha Martin (administrative manager at VUMC), especially in the very first days in the USA. Certainly I am very grateful to all faculty, fellows, residents, all the stuff I had communicated with. And of course the great thanks to ICS and Pfizer for such a great opportunity!

There are only 2 minuses in my fellowship – it was too short and it could be only once. It was really a great time with great people in a great hospital – I remember for all my life!

Thank you all for everything!



