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LEARNING, FRIENDS & MEMORIES – MY HONG KONG HAT-TRICK

This was my second trip to Hong Kong, so, the place and people were familiar and this time I had come with different goals and expectations.

I arrived on 30th June 2017 and it was a really warm weather, much different from my previous winter experience. I went straight to the Duchess of Kent Hospital resident quarters. The quarter was nice and clean with a shared bathroom. This time, I enjoyed my stay much more than last time as there were 8 rooms on the floor and we had all the other overseas fellows residing at the same floor. So, gradually we had a great fun time talking, cooking and seeing places in Hong Kong together.

I met members of the tumor division, namely, Dr. Ho Wai Yip Kenneth, Dr. Yau Ching Hin Raymond and residents of the General and Oncology division on the same day. The environment and place everything looked so familiar that I was not feeling out of place. I met the chief of tumor division, Dr. Lam Ying Lee two weeks after, as he was on leave at that time. One of the main reason for me coming back second time was Dr. Lam. As he is not just a meticulous and complete surgeon and a great mentor



(From left) Dr. WY Ho, Dr. YL Lam, me and Dr. R Yau during one of the theatre session

but also a very noble human being. This time my fellowship was much more dynamic in the terms that, I was not merely an observer, but also an active assistant in the cases, doing some surgeries independently under supervision and seeing patients in the clinics. I saw lot of cases of soft tissue sarcoma which required extensive reconstructions. As I had very limited experience in flaps and soft tissue reconstruction, it provided me the

initial exposure on which I can further build on. Another new area was the exposure of cryotherapy in treating primary malignant bone tumors which I had seen only once, that too was in my previous visit to Hong Kong. This is another area which was new and fascinating. Thirdly, I saw cases of vascularized fibular grafting for the first time and I consider myself really fortunate that I could see three cases in my short span of 6 months. Apart from the surgeries, morning rounds on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday involved great academic discussions. And I would like to thank other members of the general division including, Dr. Fok Woon Man Margaret, Dr. C.F.Chan and Dr. WY Cheung for the same. Other interesting academic activities were Wednesday clinical conference and Saturday Inter-hospital meeting, both of which were quite informative and enlightening, specially because the emphasis was more on the basic principles involved in the Orthopaedic surgery. I also got the opportunity to present in both of them.



My presentations in Wednesday clinical conference and 1st HKU International Musculoskeletal Tumor Course (Nov 2017)

The department organized the 1st HKU International Musculoskeletal tumor course. Here I would like to thank Dr. Y.L. Lam, for giving me this opportunity to be an active participant in the course as a moderator and a case presenter. I really enjoyed the academic feast and met some of the renowned faculties in the field of Orthopaedic Oncology. The entire event was very well organized and a great learning experience.



With other faculties during 1st HKU International Musculoskeletal tumor course

Apart from studies, I also enjoyed roaming around and visiting places in Hong Kong. The people here are very warm and disciplined. I still remember that during one of my presentations last time, Prof. Cheung said, “Although this is your first international trip, you have seen the best” and now, I totally agree with him. I have made new friends and would specially like to thank Dr. Ashwin Anil Deshmukh, fellow in sports division, with whom I spent quite a lot of time.

Overall, my fellowship was quite eventful, with lot of academics, research, surgeries and International musculoskeletal tumor course. I would like to thank the entire department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology for giving this opportunity to overseas fellows like me to come and learn with them. I would specially like to thank Dr. Lam, Dr. Ho and Dr. Yau, for always being very supportive and caring throughout the fellowship.



Group lunch with faculty and residents of Division of General & Oncology

I would like to thank the entire nursing staff of both the Queen Mary Hospital and Duchess of Kent Children hospital. I am really amazed by the enthusiasm of the staff and the way they work. Lastly, I would like to thank the administrative staff specially Ms. Eva Liu and Ms. Catherine Chiu for helping me in the administrative work.

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