

End of Fellowship Report:

I did my Foot and Ankle Surgery fellowship from July- December 2018 under Dr. KH Ng. During this time, I had Dr. Chris Tang helping me as well. Dr. KH Ng was a very insightful mentor and kept me interested in the field as well as encouraged my curiosity. It was not surprising that I learned a lot over these 6 months. Not only in the field of Foot and Ankle Surgery, but also in a different culture and about life in general.

We had a structured weekly schedule and stuck to it. On Mondays, we would do ward rounds, especially taking a look at our patients for surgery the next day. After our rounds, we would hold clinics every other week. Monday clinics were more of general foot and ankle cases and long term follow up cases post op. On Tuesdays, we would have 2-3 cases in the operating theater. During these days, Dr. Ng would involve me quite extensively on discussing the case and options for the patients. He would usually take his time to teach me the decision-making skills and caveats on the cases. Dr. Ng kept the operating theater stress free and relaxed but would still show his authority. I noticed how meticulous he was with each and every patient or case and would strive to emulate that. On Wednesdays, we would do post op rounds and some discussions on the previous cases before heading to the weekly department conferences. On Thursdays, we again have pre op rounds and clinics in the afternoons. Occasionally, we do have Foot and Ankle conferences where we discuss pre selected topics. On Fridays, we have clinics and 1 case in the afternoons. Some Saturdays, I would attend the interhospital meetings in the mornings and listen in on the various special cases the other hospitals share and of course learn from their experiences as well.

As an aspiring Foot and Ankle Surgeon, I am very grateful for the time I have spent here and will surely take this experience into my practice and institution. I have learned a lot about foot reconstruction. Theories, concepts, application and most especially patient care. What stuck most to me was Dr. Ng's dedication to each and every patient and their problem/s. Not only did he take care of his patients but also made sure everyone in the team understands not only the case and plan but also the patient. Most of our cases dealt with reconstruction of the adult acquired flat foot deformities and severe hallux valgus cases with the occasional Achilles tendon ruptures and ankle arthritis. The pearls and pitfalls of each case was highlighted to me by Dr. Ng and he also challenged me theoretically and practically. I've not only picked up Foot and Ankle concepts from Dr. Ng, I have also learned valuable life lessons and will always be grateful to him being my mentor for this short 6 months.

I also worked with Dr. Tang and he has been nothing but helpful and accommodating. He showed me the ins and outs of the hospital at the same time, did his job to a T. He was very passionate about his work and showed a lot of maturity as a young surgeon.

Doris was very helpful to be from the beginning. She made sure that I had all the requirements and most importantly was the 1st to welcome me into the department. She was always around to help me. Even things as mundane as a new battery for my pager, she would go out of her way to help. It would always brighten my day to see her smile. During my 1st months here, I was also preparing for my Orthopedics board examinations back home and the Wednesday conferences were a welcome review for me. I was very impressed with the residents' performances as they were always very well prepared for the discussions and usually had deep understanding of each topic. Hopefully, I can help bring this diligence back to my institution. Luckily for me, I was able to pass my examinations and focus on my fellowship.

My stay here did not only involve work. I made new friends with the other residents, nurses and staff as well as the other fellows.

I am very grateful for the time I've spent in Queen Mary Hospital and will take all my experiences to heart. This was a very important milestone in my life and career.

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