

Report

70th Annual Meeting of American Academy of Dermatology (AAD)

By Michal W. S. Ong

I like to thank the British Association of Dermatologists (BAD) for giving me the financial support to attend the AAD annual meeting. BAD contributed towards my air travel expenses and without it, this would not be possible. The main purpose of attending this meeting was to present my poster on a “Systematic Review of Fractional Laser Resurfacing for Acne Scars”. This was the first international conference I attended and this was also the very first time I presented a poster at a conference. It was a valuable experience for myself and I became more confident in presenting.

The meeting was from 16th to the 20th March 2012. I presented my poster on Monday (19th March 2012) and attended four out of five-days conference. Apart from some discussions and forums that I subscribed to, I also signed up to a couple of courses. Amongst them were: Dermatology Review (\$100), Paediatric Dermatology (\$40), From Stem to Skin, Dermoscopy, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Skin Signs of Systemic Disease, Apps for Derms and Drug Safety in Pregnancy. The Dermatology Review was a two full-day course and the Paediatric Dermatology was a one full-day course.

I found the Dermatology Review most useful. This course covered all the main topics and diseases in dermatology by world experts. Most of them gave a brief introduction and some of them explained key concepts. Most importantly, they all gave an update and latest findings in that particular topic and there were questions and answers sessions at the end of each talk. I also found the Paediatric Dermatology course useful. I particularly like the case studies. There were questions and interactive sessions which helped to check for our understanding of the topic and kept us engaged to the topic.

This meeting has also given me the opportunity to meet people who are also interested or work in this field. I met up with some current dermatologists who work in the United Kingdom. I also had an opportunity to meet up with Prof. Howard Maibach, who will be my supervisor during my elective in summer. I will be working with him and his team in the dermatology department of University of California, San Francisco (UCSF).

Overall, it was a new invaluable experience for me. I found the meeting informative and it inspired me to continue to pursue this area of medicine as my future career. I attach a copy of my e-poster in this e-mail for information.