

BAD/DC Travel Fellowship - Summer 2017

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I am very grateful to have been awarded the BAD/DC travel fellowship to attend the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) meeting 2018, held in San Diego. This was my first time attending the AAD as well as San Diego and was an extremely enriching experience.

Each day of the conference was packed with a variety of high quality sessions and it can be difficult choosing which to attend at first! With a large number of delegates and speakers from around the world, it was a great opportunity to network and get an insight into how clinical approaches differ internationally.

The first morning session on paediatric dermatology, explored real life clinical cases and approaches to managing acute and emergency paediatrics. Dr. Eichenfield's talk on new developments in atopic dermatitis explored topical PDE4 inhibitors such as, crisaborole ointment, as well as several biologic therapies in the pipeline. It was also interesting learning about emerging treatments coming through for alopecia areata and androgenetic alopecia, with research updates presented by Dr Bergfeld. Dr. Mark Lebwohl presented clinical pearls, including use of intralesional candida antigen for viral warts.

There were a variety of dermoscopy sessions which were greatly educational. Moreover, it was a good opportunity to attend subject areas which, I am not commonly exposed to, including, cutaneous reactions to chemotherapy and soft tissue augmentation in cosmetic dermatology. The sessions on complex medical dermatology, neutrophilic dermatoses and eosinophilia were particularly applicable to my own clinical practice.

The final day provided several high quality sessions delivering clinical and research pearls on a variety of topics including 'skin of colour', infectious diseases, biologics for psoriasis and updates in skin cancers.

San Diego is a lovely city to visit with fantastic weather, harbour views and culinary delights which made the experience even more enjoyable.

Overall the AAD provides an extremely diverse and valuable meeting with clinical, research and practical sessions relevant to dermatologists at all stages of training. I am grateful to the British Association of Dermatologists and Dowling Club for granting me this opportunity and I would highly recommend this meeting to all trainees.

