

BAD/DC Travel Fellowship – Summer 2016
EADV Bridging Dermatology and Rheumatology Course
Jesi, Italy
14-15 October 2016

I would like to thank the BAD for facilitating my trip to Italy to attend the above course. I have a keen interest in medical dermatology. The vast array of conditions, coupled with the rapid development of treatments, makes this area particularly fascinating.

Last year, during my second year of training, I worked in a Connective Tissue Disease Clinic, which exposed me on a weekly basis to conditions such as lupus erythematosus, morphea, scleroderma, dermatomyositis, as well as other diseases which bridge the dermatology-rheumatology interface. I thoroughly enjoyed working in the Connective Tissue Disease Clinic. The 'Bridging Dermatology and Rheumatology' Course offered the perfect opportunity to further my knowledge in this area of medical dermatology.

The course was held in the beautiful town of Jesi. It was very well organised with a panel of eminent speakers from around Europe, including Professors Camille Frances, Luca Borradori, Lidia Rudnicka and Franco Rongioletti.

Prof Frances gave fantastic and detailed overviews on cutaneous lupus erythematosus and cutaneous vasculitis. Prof Borradori gave a fascinating talk on dermatomyositis and all of its variants. My personal highlight was Prof Rongioletti's lectures on scleroderma, sclerodema and scleromyxoedema. Last year, I published a case report on dermatoneuro syndrome, a rare neurological complication of scleromyxoedema. Much of the literature on scleromyxoedema had been co-authored by Prof Rongioletti, who is also the author of the Rook chapter on the subject. During the break, I took the opportunity to talk to him about his experience of dermatoneuro syndrome, as well as how he managed the localised form of scleromyxoedema – lichen myxoedematosus.

On the second day, we all gave a presentation, and I was fortunate to be awarded the prize for the best presentation.

The delegates included registrars/residents from all over Europe, including the United Kingdom, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Romania, as well as other countries e.g. India and Algeria. It was a fantastic opportunity to meet and share ideas and experiences with fellow trainee dermatologists from other countries.

On the Friday evening, the EADV organised a dinner for the faculty and the delegates. This was a great social experience with great Italian food and wine!

I am very grateful to the BAD for giving me this opportunity. I would also like to thank the EADV for putting up such an enjoyable course. I would urge other registrars to attend the EADV courses whenever possible.

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