

## **BAD/DC Travel Fellowship – Winter 2020**

### **8<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Teledermatology, Imaging and AI for Skin Diseases: 5-6 November 2020**

**Dr Amr Salam**

I am grateful to the British Association of Dermatologists for supporting me in attending and presenting at the 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Teledermatology 2020, which was due to be held in Seville, Spain, however was converted to a remote meeting in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Having presented at the Teledermatology Skills and Practice Course at BAD House, London, in November 2019, I had the honour of being invited as an international guest speaker to the World Congress of Teledermatology, Seville, Spain by the organisers, Dr Saul Halpern (UK) and Dr David Moreno-Ramírez (Spain). I have an interest in the use of technology in the workplace and was therefore invited to speak about smartphone apps for dermatologists and their patients.

As part of my visit to Seville, I was planning an observership at the Dermatology Unit at the Hospital Universitario Virgen Macarena in Seville, which is where Dr David Moreno-Ramírez is based. He heads up one of the largest teledermatology services in Europe, providing teledermatology to over 60 primary care practices, serving an area of around 800,000 inhabitants. I have developed both an interest in, and appreciation of, the importance of teledermatology in the modern delivery of Dermatology services – which has become even more pivotal in the midst of a pandemic. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend this placement, but hope to visit the unit in the future.

The remote conference was executed extremely efficiently, with a mixture of live and pre-recorded talks. There were 7 sessions, each focussing on an important theme within teledermatology. Speakers presented from all over the world, including the USA, New Zealand, Sweden, China, Italy, Spain, Australia, Canada, Denmark, Mexico, and the UK. I particularly enjoyed Paola Pasquali's (Tarragona, Spain) talk on Digital photography for teledermatology, highlighting many of the challenges we face as clinicians with regards to the quality of teledermatology images. Paola has also created her own videos on YouTube teaching patients how to take good quality teledermatology images. She also discussed some interesting technical challenges when taking such photos, such as optical and perspective distortion.

As well as pre-recording my talk, I also had the opportunity to be a panellist as part of a live discussion forum on Technologies for Teledermatology and AI, which stimulated interesting discussions between myself, Paola and David Moreno around important challenges in digital imaging, and the role of smartphones in our future practice.

Thanks to the BAD, I had the opportunity to be part of a unique and stimulating remote international conference, that allowed me to learn from and network with dermatologists from all over the world who are using teledermatology and smartphone technology to deliver services. This field is rapidly evolving and is always striving to keep up with the concurrent expansion of the broader technology market. International forums are therefore invaluable for staying up to date.

Screenshot of me delivering my talk on Smartphone Apps for Dermatologists and their Patients, at the 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Teledermatology 2020

<https://teledermatology.nubwebinar.com>

**8<sup>th</sup> VIRTUAL World Congress**  
5-6 November, 2020  
of Teledermatology, Imaging and AI for Skin Diseases

**Smartphone apps for dermatologists and their patients**

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