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I would like to express my gratitude for the BAD Elective prize, which was integral in funding my placement at Melanoma Institute Australia. It has been an incredible experience and I am very grateful to the BAD for your support. During my placement at MIA I had a varied and interesting clinical experience. I was able to observe the management of skin neoplasia in the world's largest melanoma centre, using some of the most advanced treatments available. I had the opportunity to see the multi disciplinary approach of care, which will be essential in providing the best care for patients in my future career.

I was fortunate to attend Dermatology outpatient clinics with Dr Pascale Guitera, becoming more experienced in the use of dermatoscopy, which I used for all patients coming for skin checks. I saw a range of patients from a variety of age groups and skin types, including high-risk patients with previous skin malignancies. I observed a variety of skin lesions, both benign and malignant and have a better understanding of the intricate details that can be used to distinguish between these lesions. I was also able to observe the use of confocal microscopy, which allows a non-invasive analysis of borderline skin lesions, and was also used to help define the borders of some BCCs which can often be difficult to excise completely.

In addition to Dermatology clinics, I was also able to see the other multi disciplinary care provided to patients, including regular attendance of plastic surgery clinics, which also involved skin checks and planning the most appropriate surgical intervention for the patients. I also attended medical oncology, surgical oncology and radiotherapy clinics which all served to further my understanding of the most appropriate treatment for patients with skin malignancies of various stages, including an understanding of the latest trials for management of advanced melanoma, with the opportunity to speak to patients about their experience of these treatments.

I was also able to attend several theatre lists for plastic surgery and surgical oncology with leading surgeons, such as Professor Thompson. I observed and assisted in a variety of procedures, including skin excisions, grafting, isolated limb infusions and lymph node dissections.

Driven by my interest in a case I came across whilst assisting in theatre, I became actively involved in the follow up of the patient in the radiotherapy clinic and at the MDT meeting. This case was of an unusual presentation of clear cell sarcoma which was originally believed to be a melanoma, with a recurrence of disease 2 years after original diagnosis and excision. I used this opportunity to review the existing literature on clear cell sarcoma, including its diagnosis and management. I approached Professor Thompson, and have since prepared a manuscript which I hope to submit for presentation and publication.

I was also given some lab-based tutorials which will be extremely helpful for my future research endeavours. I have had the opportunity to work in an excellent centre in Australia, attending regular MDT meetings, becoming familiar with novel research studies and seeing the superb patient-centred approach to care, which I hope will reflect in my future career.