

**NIHR/BAD Travel Bursary Report**  
**American Academy of Dermatology - 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual meeting**  
**San Francisco, 20-24<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

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I would, firstly, like to extend my gratitude to the National Institute of Health Research and the British Association of Dermatology for awarding me one of the Travel Bursaries they offer. The bursary has provided financial support with which I was able to attend the American Academy of Dermatology Annual meeting and give an oral presentation there. Dr Richard Warren supported my Travel Bursary application and for his support I am extremely grateful.

The American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual meeting was held in San Francisco in March this year in the Moscone Center. On arriving to the Moscone center I was immediately taken aback by the sheer size of the venue which accommodated over 15000 international attendees. Full of excitement and a portion of nerves on the first morning of the meeting, I gave my oral presentation entitled 'Ichthyosis prematurity syndrome: a rare syndromic ichthyosis in a patient with a missense mutation in Fatty Acid Transport Protein 4 (FATP4) gene'. The talk went smoothly and I enjoyed presenting to the audience who were a mixture of residents, students and consultants. I enjoyed listening to the other presentations during this session also concerning varied rare and interesting cases.

This was my first meeting in the United States of America and I was interested in learning about how the speciality may differ compared to the United Kingdom. The sessions were varied and all of very high quality. I particular found the session *Hair Disorders Made Easier* very educational, interesting and related to my PhD project which investigated how the human hair cycle rhythm arises and is controlled. I enjoyed a large selection of sessions over the 4 days which included, *Systemic Therapies for Dermatologists*, *An Evidence-based approach to nails*, *Cutaneous complications in Oncology and bone marrow transplant patients*, *Medical and Surgical Management of Nail disorders*, *Skin and Systemic Malignancy*, *Cutaneous malignancies: Beyond basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma*, *Advanced medical dermatology*, *Male Genital Dermatology*, *Acne and Rosacea*, *Management issues in cutaneous lymphoma and Dermatological manifestations of oncology drugs*. I also took the opportunity to enrol in a one day Dermatoscopy course which took place on day 3 of the meeting. The presenters taught a logical, systematic method in approaching cutaneous lesions and I will find it invaluable in my clinical work.

San Francisco was a wonderful location for the AAD. The city is vibrant, full of culture and set in picturesque surroundings. I was lucky to spend time in the evening enjoying the restaurants and after the conference I had a few days to explore the city. I took the opportunity to visit the iconic Golden Gate bridge, Sausalito which boasts beautiful art galleries and shops and even managed to fit in a day in the Napa Valley for wine tasting.

I would recommend the AAD as a great meeting to attend for trainees and consultants alike.