

AAD Registration Scholarship

American Academy of Dermatology Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida, 3-7 March 2017

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I am very grateful to the AAD and BAD for giving me the opportunity to attend the Annual AAD Meeting in Orlando. This was my first AAD Meeting and it was a fabulous experience from start to finish.

The evening before the meeting, the scholarship winners were invited to the registration dinner. We had the privilege of being greeted by the AAD president. I had the opportunity to meet dermatology trainees from all over the world – Europe, Australia, Dubai, etc. The highlight of the evening for me was meeting Dr Jean Bologna (photo).



Me with Dr Jean Bologna

For all those who have attended the AAD Meeting, you will know that it is a unique event packed with fantastic talks. The challenge was knowing which sessions to attend. I was armed with the AAD mobile app, which was extremely valuable in helping me plan every single day.

On the first day, I attended updates on medical dermatology, including vasculitis, neutrophilic dermatoses and drugs in dermatology. On the second day, I attended the Paediatric Dermatology Course, which was complimentary as part of the registration scholarship. I spent the best part of the third day attending sessions on dermoscopy. I was personally interested to hear updates on dermoscopy of inflammatory conditions - an area still in its infancy. In addition, I attended a number of sessions on hair, an area which is not extensively covered in our curriculum. It was quite fascinating to hear dermatologists from the USA, Europe and Australia share their knowledge and experience with hair disorders and how to manage them. Trichoscopy is quite widely used now to aid diagnosis of hair disorders. A few people shared their experience of using JAK inhibitors in alopecia areata. It was interesting to hear thoughts on hair transplantation for male and female pattern baldness. Finally, I attended an afternoon session on cutaneous lymphoma, where the

speakers covered a comprehensive programme from the WHO-EORTC classification to the latest insights on the molecular pathogenesis of cutaneous lymphomas.

Aside from the meeting, I had a wonderful time in Orlando. I went to the obligatory Disney World and visited two of the bigger parks – Magic Kingdom and Epcot. Being quite the film fanatic, Universal Studios was a must. It didn't disappoint. My personal favourite, however, was SeaWorld. I saw, amongst others, dolphins, seals, penguins, sharks and, for the first time, orcas (killer whales). The orca show was nothing short of spectacular. I thoroughly enjoyed all the shows and even the rides!

Once again, I would like to thank the AAD and BAD for facilitating my attendance at the Annual AAD Meeting.