

Editorial

British Association of Spinal Surgeons/British Scoliosis Society President's Travelling Fellowship report 2014

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This is the second year of the very successful British Association of Spinal Surgeons (BASS)/British Scoliosis Society (BASS) Presidents' Travelling Fellowship.

The Fellowship has been set up as an annual event with a competitive application system open to all senior spinal surgery trainees. A panel of representatives from both spinal societies judges the applications. In addition, the Indian Spine Society was invited to nominate a fellow to accompany the traveling fellowship this year.

The 2-week program included four major spinal units in the United Kingdom with arrangements for the fellows to attend spinal theaters, clinics, and meetings and tours of the hosting units with a chance to meet and mingle with the consultants and their teams.

Before the fellowship, all the fellows were put in touch with each other by e-mail, and with the generous support of BASS/BSS, we were provided with a grant to cover our accommodation and travel costs.

Week 1

Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore

Mr Sean Molloy
Mr Hilali Nordeen
Mr Adrian Casey
Mr Jan Lehovsky
Mr Kia Rezajooi

Mr Matthew Shaw
Mr Stuart Tucker
Mr Alex Gibson.
Mr Robert Lee

The week started at Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, where Mr Sean Molloy, Mr Kia Rezajooi, and Mr Adrian Casey greeted us with breakfast and coffee. We started with a talk on intradural and extradural tumors from Mr Casey. Our first list was with Mr Nordeen who demonstrated the insertion of magnetic growth rods and then gave us a talk on his experiences and discussed the indications and potential pitfalls of the device as well as a comprehensive review of his case series and the world literature. Following on from this, we spent time with Mr Shaw who demonstrated his technique for an anterior single-stage instrumented fusion for adolescent idiopathic scoliosis. Mr Lee then demonstrated minimally invasive techniques for L5–S1 fusions. Interspersed between these operative cases, we had more talks and presentations including sagittal balance, cervical disc replacement, and the rheumatoid spine.

That evening, we enjoyed the delights of a favorite local Stanmore curry house, and Stanmore consultant Mr James Allibone joined us for the evening.

The following day, we had another full day in theaters, with cases from Mr Lehovsky, Mr Molloy, Mr Rezajooi, and Mr Tucker including L3 pedicle subtraction osteotomy and deformity correction for ankylosing spondylitis, multiple posterior corrections for scoliosis, a hemivertebrectomy, adult deformity correction, excision of a T7 thoracic tumor (the latter two using O-arm navigation), and cement augmentation kyphoplasty for myeloma.

We finished the cases and left Stanmore about 9 PM and drove to Nottingham.

FDA device/drug status: Not applicable.

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Mr. Nordeen talking about his experience with Magnetic Growing Rods.

Queens Medical Centre, Nottingham

Mr Mike Grevitt
Mr Hosain Mehdi
Mr Phillip Sell
Mr Nasir Quraishi
Mr Bronyck Bozcyck

On the Wednesday, we set off to find Queens Medical Centre. We managed to get hopelessly lost in its myriad of car parks. We soon managed to find our way by following the smell of coffee to the main entrance, and from there, we located the department where we were met by Mr Grevitt.

The afternoon consisted of a welcome meeting with discussion of a range of interesting cases followed by the traveling fellows doing presentations on a range of topics including tuberculosis of the spine, anatomic variations in the vertebral artery, sagittal balance, craniocervical junction tumors, and spinal myeloma. Then, Mr Grevitt gave a fascinating talk on the history of Nottingham, its castle(s), and lacemaking, followed by dinner together in the old Hospital, which has been converted into a restaurant.

We assembled for the morning meeting and reviewed the night's admissions before moving to theaters. We viewed a series of cases including anterior instrumentation for



Fellows with Mr. Casey and Mr. Molloy at Stanmore.

adolescent idiopathic scoliosis, L5–S1 posterior lumbar interbody fusion, and posterior correction of kyphosis in myeloma.

The next day, we spent the morning in clinic with Mr Sell and then had a fascinating multi disciplinary team meeting with more interesting cases and discussion.

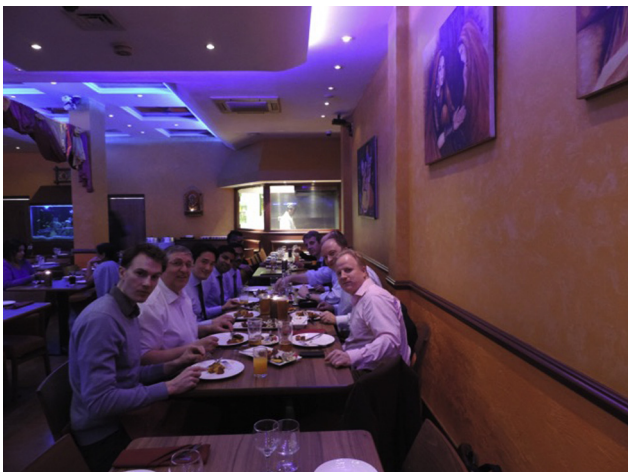
We then departed for the weekend and went our separate ways for some rest and relaxation. On Sunday, we reconvened in Stoke-on-Trent.

Week 2

University Hospital of North Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent

Mr El-Nasri Ahmed
Mr Vinay Jasani
Mr Sandeep Konduru
Mr Nikolaos Tzerakis
Mr Mark Brown

The second week dawned bright and sunny over Stoke, and we set off to be met by Mr Ahmed. During the day,



The Fellows enjoying curry with the Stanmore Consultants



Mr. Grevitt welcomes the Fellows to Nottingham.

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