



ESGO Traveling Fellowship Fellows Report

Name of Fellow: Priv. Doz. Dr. Veronika Seebacher

Position at Home Institution: Junior Consultant

Home Institution (full address): Department for Gynecology and Gynecologic Oncology,
Medical University of Vienna, Waehringer Guertel 18-20, A-1090 Vienna, Austria

Head of the Department: Univ.Prof. Dr. Peter Husslein

Email: veronika.seebacher@meduniwien.ac.at

Name of Mentor at Host Institution: Prof. Dr. Philippe Morice

Position at Host Institution: Head of Gynaecologic Oncology Surgery Unit

Institution (full address): Institut Gustave Roussy 114 Rue Edouard Vaillant, 94800 Villejuif,
France

Email: Philippe.MORICE@gustaveroussy.fr

Dates of Fellowship:

01-05-2015 – 31-07-2015

Detailed description on Teaching received:

During my fellowship at the Institut Gustave Roussy I was mentored by Prof. Philippe Morice. After inscription at the L'Ordre de Médecins I was allowed to participate at clinical activities and could participate in theatre. I observed and assisted surgical procedures and Prof. Morice and his staff gave their best to explain surgical steps and their surgical concept. Once a week a lecture was given for registrars and fellows covering surgical gynae-oncological topics. Furthermore once a week a journal club took place held by medical oncology team on various topics. By participating the weekly tumour board I learned a lot about the local practice of care. Furthermore during my stay a course was held for gynecologists and registrars on gynecologic oncology surgery with life surgeries video streamed.

Goals accomplished:

My time at the Institut Gustave Roussy was highly instructive as I learned about the French medical system, the practice of patient management and new surgical techniques like

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retroperitoneal laparoscopic para-aortic lymph node dissection. I furthermore had the chance to improve my French language skills and to make new friends. I met people with whom I will stay in contact and eventually evolve future research collaborations. Furthermore I could liaise between the Austrian society of Gynaecologic Oncology (AGO Austria) and Prof Morice, who kindly agreed to an invitation to give a presentation at this year's annual conference of the AGO Austria in Salzburg, Austria.

Achievement in clinical practice:

By observing and participating at surgical procedures, the tumour board and clinics I could expand my professional knowledge. Moreover I learned a lot about different approaches to clinical questions and problems. The Institut Gustave Roussy is a referral center for gynecological cancer in France and therefore I had the chance to observe the treatment of a lot of patients with rare diseases.

Presentations eg. at seminar or meetings:

I did not give a presentation during my time at the Institut Gustave Roussy.

Research performed and outcome:

I participated at a research project on para-aortic lymph node staging in patients with locally advanced cervical cancer prior to primary chemo-radiotherapy. I thereby developed the idea, collected data and performed provisional analyses. I offered to write the paper, but this will be done by Prof. Morice's team.

Publications:

A publication of the research project is still pending.

Problems encountered with a critical evaluation of the fellowship experience as a whole:

In total, spending some months at the Institut Gustave Roussy was a very good experience for me. I could observe a lot and people were approaching me generally welcoming and friendly. However, I felt it would be difficult to truly immerse into the system and become a member of the team.

Future plan on returning to home:

Back home I will continue working at the Medical University of Vienna within the gynecologic oncology team, where I will start an ESGO accredited fellowship program in November 2016. Furthermore I will keep on doing research and teaching as university lecturer.

Overall evaluation and comment of the fellowship:

Overall spending some time in another institution and especially another country is an immensely enriching experience. Not only did I learn a lot about different approaches to clinical

questions but also did I have the chance to enhance my personal development. I am very grateful for the support given to me by ESGO, as without financial support undertaking a fellowship in another country would have been very difficult.

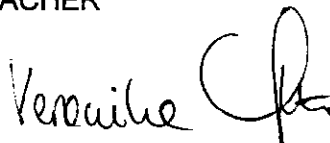
With many thanks and kind regards,

In Vienna, Austria

Date 01.02.2016

Applicant's name (in capital letters) VERONIKA SEEBACHER

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Veronika Seebacher', written in a cursive style.

Enjoy learning with ESGO!