



## AWARD REPORT

<b>DATE</b>	12/08/2023
<b>MEMBER NAME</b>	Dr. Francesco Maffia
<b>COUNTRY</b>	Italy
<b>POSITION</b>	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Resident – Federico II University of Naples
<b>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</b>	Undergraduate Student/Junior Trainee
<b>NAME OF AWARD</b> (ie Hugo Obwegeser, Leibinger etc)	Leibinger Award
<b>LOCATION/DATE OF VISIT</b>	Instituto Portugues da Face, Lisbon, Portugal. 03/03/2023 – ongoing (period extended till November 2023)
<b>NAME OF HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF UNIT VISITED</b>	Professor Doctor David Faustino Angelo
<b>LOGBOOK - during visitation, if applicable (please add as addendum)</b>	See addendum
<b>SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE GAINED:</b>	<p>My interest in the temporomandibular joint was born when I was still a medical student, doing an internship in the maxillofacial surgery department of the “Sapienza” University of Rome with Professor Cascone. Since that moment I have dedicated a lot of my training to TMJ and orthognathic surgery, collecting experiences in Italy and abroad (2 weeks</p>



fellowship in 2017 at Pyramid Am See Klinik in Zurich, under the guidance of Dr Daniel Brusco; 3 months Erasmus Traineeship in 2019 at the University of Vienna, under the guidance of Professor Millesi). In 2020 I graduated and started my residency at the "Federico II" University of Naples, under the guidance of Professor Califano. Having reached the third year, I wanted to do an experience abroad to enrich my culture. The Instituto Portugues da Face, a reference center for temporomandibular disorders and orthognathic surgery, perfectly embodied my greatest interests. Thanks to the Leibinger award I had the opportunity to realize a project of training with them.

My reception at Instituto Portugues da Face (IPF) by Professor Angelo and his entire team was exemplary. I was received very warmly, with careful planning of all my activities week by week. Over time I achieved autonomy in clinical case management and organization of clinical processes. I had the specific opportunity to deepen and refine the diagnostic-therapeutic course of temporomandibular disorders. Specifically, I reached autonomy in collecting adequate clinical history, practicing the objective clinical examination properly, requesting instrumental examinations and analyzing their interpretation, and choosing the most appropriate treatment. I could explore and deepen also the entire process of dentoskeletal malocclusions planning, from first visits to 6 months of postoperative follow-up. I have taken part in the planning of numerous orthognathic surgery cases planned with IPS Case Designers and treated with custom-made cutting guides and osteosynthesis plates. I have been practicing 3D programming using software like Invesalius, Geomagic, IPS - Case Designer, and Blender. Developing good skills in programming and fabrication by a 3D printer of custom cutting guides.

From the *surgical* point of view, I was able to practice arthrocentesis, arthroscopy, and open surgery of the temporomandibular joint as first aid and successively also as ad first surgeon, under tutorage. I joined 60+ surgical procedures practicing all subspecialties of maxillofacial surgery, including TMJ surgery, orthognathic surgery, nasosinusal surgery, microsurgical oncologic reconstructive surgery, facial nerve palsy surgery, salivary gland surgery, aesthetic surgery, implantology, and oral surgery.

*Scientifically*, I have produced one complete publication, 4 finished manuscripts, 2 ongoing clinical trials, 2 abstracts presented at an international congress, and 4 presentations about TMD at national/international events. During my staying, I had the opportunity of being selected as Assistant Editor of the European Journal of Stomatology, Oral and Facial Surgery, the official journal of the AMEP - Associação de Médicos Estomatologistas Portugueses Estomatologia / Association of Portuguese Stomatologists.

From an *academic* point of view, I took part as a co-mentor in a graduate medical student's research project. I had the great honor and opportunity to apply for a Ph.D. at



the University of Lisbon, currently under approval.

**OBJECTIVES FOLLOWING VISITATION:**

The main goals for the phase following the visitation will be to continue to explore the treatment of temporomandibular disorders and the completion of my academic career, finishing my residency and, in a few years, my Ph.D. In the future, I would like to apply for the European Society of Temporomandibular Joint Surgeons (ESTMJS), and for that, I need to gather as much experience as possible.

I would also like to have the opportunity to set up a specialized TMD center in Italy, where this type of treatment is practiced by a few surgeons. I am sure that the experience I am having here can be of great help in this project. I don't exclude realizing new experiences abroad to learn more about specific treatments or techniques.

**FEEDBACK**

I especially want to thank EACMF and Stryker for the opportunity I was given. I can already easily say that this experience has changed my career and my life. Having the opportunity to learn in a center of excellence is a rarity, but it is even more if it is done in a work environment that is like a family. I received daily attention, my education came always first, and everything was done and planned so that I could experience and learn. I consider myself extremely lucky to have met Professor David Angelo and Doctor Sanz as mentors. I strongly recommend and encourage choosing this center for excellent training not only in temporomandibular disorders but in the entire head and neck area.

.....12/08/2023.....

ate

