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AWARD REPORT

DATE	11th October 2021
MEMBER NAME	Eduardo Ventura
COUNTRY	Portugal
POSITION	OMFS Resident
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	Specialist Trainee
NAME OF AWARD (ie Hugo Obwegeser, Leibinger etc)	Leibinger Award
LOCATION/DATE OF VISIT	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department – Heidelberg University Hospital – Germany 1st July 2021 – 30th September 2021
NAME OF HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF UNIT VISITED	Prof. Dr. Dr. Jürgen Hoffmann
LOGBOOK - during visitation, if applicable (please add as addendum)	-----
SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE GAINED: During our training pathway in Portugal, we are strongly suggested to undertake a training period in a Centre with a clinical interest either in Cleft or Craniofacial Surgery. Therefore the main objective of this visit was to gain contact with Craniofacial Surgery. Other than that, I defined as the other two most relevant objectives for this period, to get experience with Virtual Surgical Planning and to contact more	



systematically with Patient-Specific Implants (PSI), resources that are still not in widespread use in my country.

Therefore, first of all, this experience allowed me to gain contact with Craniofacial Surgery Cases and Craniofacial Surgical Procedures, under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Dr. Michael Engel. In the Craniofacial outpatient clinic, I had the opportunity to assess several non-syndromic scaphocephaly, brachycephaly and plagiocephaly cases. Regarding syndromic cases, I have contacted with Apert and Muenke syndrome patients. Regarding my Craniofacial Surgery activity in the Operating Room (OR), I could assist in numerous fronto-orbitary advancements, several linear craniectomies with “Barrel-Staved” osteotomy and a strip craniectomy.

Regarding Virtual Surgical Planning, since all the Orthognathic Cases in Heidelberg are planned virtually, I was able to see and get familiarized with all of the Department’s workflow for Virtual Surgical Planning in Orthognathic Surgery. Therefore, I have spent several hours at the Orthognathic Outpatient Clinic, under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Dr. Christian Freudsperger and at the Department’s 3D Lab, planning Orthognathic Surgery Cases, under the supervision of Dr. Reinald Kühle. Other than the clinical assessment of the patients and the Virtual Surgical Planning, to reinforce the learning experience I was able to assist on most of those cases in the OR. Additionally to the planning of the Orthognathic Cases itself, I was able to gain additional experience in software resources, that I consider quite important to perform Virtual Surgical Planning in a fully autonomous way, like *Blender*® and *Slicer*®.

Regarding PSI, most of the cases that I was able to contact were oncological cases, mainly segmental mandibulectomies following oral squamous cell carcinomas. Nevertheless, I also contacted with PSI in oncological maxillectomy cases, Secondary Reconstruction Trauma cases and Orthognathic Surgery, mainly in Obstructive Sleep Apnea and segmental maxillary osteotomy cases.

Other than the main objectives that I have defined for this period, I have also had the opportunity to improve my knowledge and experience in other OMFS fields of activity, due to the huge amount of surgical and clinical activity of the Department.

I had the opportunity to take part in the Oncology Outpatient Clinic where I have contacted, not surprisingly mainly with squamous cell carcinoma cases. The cases with a surgical indication were mainly reconstructed with free flaps in the OR. Of course, free flaps are also undertaken in my Home Department in Porto, but not as frequently as in Heidelberg. That allowed me to gain further experience in microsurgery and free flap reconstruction, mainly with Anterior Lateral Thigh, Fasciocutaneous Radial Forearm and Fibula Free Flaps.



This visit allowed me also to gain further experience in the use of Navigation assisted Surgery, mainly in Secondary Reconstruction Trauma Cases and Skull Base Surgery.

I was also able to take part in the Vascular Anomalies Outpatient Clinic that is undertaken monthly in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department – Heidelberg University Hospital, which was also a very valuable experience since at my Home Department we do not deal with such a big amount of Vascular Anomalies Cases. Most of the cases that I was able to assess were Venous or Lymphatic Malformations, but I was also able to assess some Arterio-Venous Malformation Cases.

I also had the opportunity to assist in some TMJ open surgery cases, including a Total Mandibular Joint replacement, a technique that I saw for the first time.

Finally, since Dental Implantology treatments are usually not performed in the Portuguese NHS, I also had the opportunity to gain further experience in Implant-based Oral Rehabilitation on Oncological Cases reconstructed with free-flaps.

OBJECTIVES FOLLOWING VISITATION:

- To establish a Workflow to start undertaking Virtual Surgical Planning, progressively, in Ortognathic Cases at my Home Department.
- Even though most Craniofacial Cases at my Hospital are assessed and treated by the Neurosurgery Department, I will make all the necessary endeavours to try to involve OMFS in the treatment of those patients in my institution.

FEEDBACK

This period was an amazing learning experience. I was able to fulfil all the primary objectives that I have established for my visit and I have gained further experience in other OMFS fields of activity. Professor Dr. Dr. Hoffmann was extremely welcoming and supportive of my visit from the first contact, despite all the COVID restrictions. All the OMFS Department Team embraced me almost from the beginning of my visit as part of the team. I encourage every trainee to apply for an educational opportunity at the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department – Heidelberg University Hospital.

..... *EA Ail Serrano Victoria*

11/10/2021

Signature

Date