

Report - EFORT Travelling Fellowship

Belgium
21 - 27 April 2013

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The EFORT Spring Travelling Fellowship 2013 was held in Belgium from 21st till 27th of April. It was organized by Belgian Association of Orthopedics and Traumatology (BVOT) and The Royal Belgian Society of Orthopedic Surgery and Traumatology (SORBCOT).

There were delegated 11 residents of orthopedics from 11 countries: Macedonia, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom and Lithuania.



Eventful program was created by organizers:

1. We visited Brussels, Leuven, Gent and Spa in Belgium during fellowship.
2. We had an opportunity to visit Orthopedic departments and operation rooms in Hospital UZ Gent, in UZ Leuven Campus Pellenberg and in Hôpital académique Erasme.
3. Finally, we spent two very interesting and useful days on Orthopaedica Belgica Congress in Spa.

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Gent



Leuven



Brussels



Spa

This Travelling Fellowship was extremely useful for me for a lot of aspects.

Firstly, it was great opportunity to meet and get acquainted with colleagues from different countries. I knew a lot of interesting things about education system of residents', about their experience, about situation of orthopedics and traumatology in their countries in general. Also, presentations made by colleagues demonstrated their fields of interests, possibly, common points of further collaboration.

Secondly, I really appreciate this occasion for visits, having a look and possibility to compare orthopedic treatment in different Belgian hospitals and my hospital. I saw working conditions and organization in some Belgian hospitals. Moreover, I evaluated great experience of Belgian colleagues in different areas of orthopedics, found out new surgical procedures or techniques never applied/seen in my hospital.

Thirdly, the topic of Orthopaedica Belgica Congress (Infection in Orthopedics and Traumatology) was very interesting and useful as it is always very actual and not popular between orthopedists. It was great success to organize congress in collaboration with microbiologists. Most of the presentations were remarkable; topics were considered from different points of view and presented clearly and creatively.

Finally, social program was organized perfectly. Despite of intensive scientific and clinical work, there was opportunity to see places of interest in all visited cities, to have conversations and to talk with colleagues just about our countries, cultures, interests and other routine things during tasty dinners in very nice and cozy restaurants.

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I am very grateful to the EFORT, BVOT and SORBCOT, also, many thanks to all local faculties, who had been very friendly and enthusiastic to host the fellowship and had organized highly enjoyable scientific and social programs.

Sincerely,

Kiril Popov
Center of Orthopedics and Traumatology
Vilnius Republican University Hospital
Vilnius University, Faculty of Medicine
Vilnius, Lithuania