

Report - EFORT Travelling Fellowship

Greece
22 – 28 September 2013



Introduction

I spent an interesting week in Greece, full of different events and trips and with very tight schedule. I can say that I have become richer professionally, as well as privately. By organizing this program, EFORT provided an opportunity for 14 residents of orthopedics and traumatology from all over Europe to improve their knowledge and meet each other, as well as colleagues from Greece. It was a good opportunity for me to find out which is the level of orthopedics in my country, if I compare it with orthopedics in Greece and in other European countries.

Thessaloniki

The first day (Monday) in Thessaloniki was very crowded. I met other participants on Monday morning during breakfast, because I arrived in Thessaloniki late previous day (around 11:45 PM). After breakfast we were divided into two groups. My group went to the Papanicolaou University Hospital. We visited the Operating Theatres and after that we had a very useful discussion about case reports of our colleagues from Greece. The other group which went to Papageorgiu General Hospital joined us on lunch. Time after lunch was scheduled for lectures from the staff members of the both hospitals and also presentations from EFORT fellows. After a busy day, we had a diner in restaurant in a city center.

The second day (Tuesday) my group visited the Papageorgiou General Hospital. We had a tour at Hospital, visited Operating Theatres and discussed case studies. After lunch, we went towards Larissa by bus. On the road between Thessaloniki and Larissa we visited Vergina Museum, one of the most important historical sites in Greece.



Larissa

We arrived in Larisa in the evening and had a wonderful dinner with prof. Malizos and his staff. The next day (Wednesday) we visited Larissa University Hospital, and after that we presented our works (paper we published or presented elsewhere, a brief review of a specific topic, a presentation regarding the patients we treated or interesting case-reports etc.). In the afternoon we left Larisa and headed to Athens.

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Athens

Upon arrival in Athens, Dr. Macheras and his colleagues welcomed us and they accompanied us at the one beautiful restaurant for dinner.

The next day (Thursday) we visited the KAT Hospital. After the Dr. Macheras welcome speech during morning we stayed in Operating Theatres. In the afternoon we attended lectures from the staff members of the KAT Hospital. We had a dinner at the hotel.

The last day (Friday) we visited Attikon Hospital. After visiting the hospital, staff members of the Attikon Hospital gave us lectures. Thanks to the Organising Committee, we visited Acropolis and the day ended with a dinner on the top of one old building in the center of Athens offering a spectacular view.

On Saturday morning I said goodbye to my new friends - EFORT Fellows and I left Athens at noon.



Conclusion

EFORT Traveling Fellowship is an unforgettable experience for me. It is a unique opportunity to gain new friends and to exchange experiences with them. I would like to sincerely thank to EFORT for letting me have this wonderful experience.

I also thank to HAOST and every individual who were involved in the organization of EFORT Travelling Fellowship 2013 in Greece, for their hospitality, their readiness to explain all procedures so clearly and their interest in what we do in our countries.

Dr Petar Cvijić, EFORT Travelling Fellow, Bosnia and Herzegovina