IBRA International Bone Research Association

Name of Scholar: German Carlos Funcheira

Country of Citizenship: Argentina

Name and Country of Training Center: Centro Médico Teknon. Barcelona, Spain.

Name of Fellowship Director: Dr. Joaquim Casañas

Scholarship Type (Program B or C): C

Type C: Arthroscopic lunocapitate fusion plus scaphoid resection in patients with midcarpal arthropathy. Comparison with open lc fusion results through literature review.

Scholarship date: February to April 2022

What were your professional and personal expectations of the scholarship?

I was looking for a place where they would provide me with both academic and practical training, to improve myself as an upper limb surgeon.

What is the main focus of the IBRA training center (in general and of the department) you assisted in?

In this center all types of upper limb surgeries are performed. Dr. Casañas particularly specializes in pathology of the brachial plexus and peripheral nerve; also in wrist arthroscopy.

What did you do during your scholarship/how were you incorporated in the training center's daily routines/activities:

– How many surgeries have you assisted and which concrete technical modifications and methods have you seen?

I attended an average of 15 surgeries per week for three months, I went to different doctors from Traumaunit. As mentioned above, in this team all kinds of surgeries are performed, but I focused on attending hand and wrist arthroscopies since I was interested in perfecting myself in that field.

– Specify your 3 to 5 favorite procedures and/or new skills you could acquire

At some point I hope to have the ability to perform:

arthroscopic hemitrapezectomy

nerve transfers (oberlin, spinal accessory to suprascapular, etc)

arthroscopic scapholunate instability (modified Corella)

– Which procedures can potentially be adopted in your future practice and how do they compare to your experiences at home

In the short term, I hope to be able to perform arthroscopically assisted surgeries such as wrist synovectomy, triangular ligament repair, arthroscopic hemitrapecectomy, etc.

What was the most significant personal experience of the scholarship for you (e.g. cultural exchange etc.)?

When I did the Schorlarship I found a place where they gave me both academic and practical training, in order to improve myself as a surgeon. At Teknon I was able to see and assist in various types of upper limb surgeries, from arthroscopy, to peripheral nerve surgeries, brachial plexus, nerve transfers, osteosynthesis, etc.

If we add to this the extremely cordial and friendly treatment of the entire team, this ends up being an excellent fellow in Barcelona that I recommend to all the doctors who can do it.

Thank you very much for your time and energy and thank you very much IBRA for giving me the opportunity to do it.

Best regards

German Carlos Funcheira

Tips to future scholars:

1) it is important to find accommodation near the clinics where the Teknon team members perform the surgeries, Barcelona is a big city and staying far from these places is not recommended!!

2) enjoy your experience!