

## **ESDO TRAINEE FELLOWSHIP REPORT 2018**



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Country of Origin: **Portugal**  
Fellowship Institute: **Department of Digestive Oncology,  
European Hospital Georges Pompidou, Paris**  
Fellowship Host: **Professor Julien Taieb**  
Date of Fellowship: **September 1 – 30, 2018**

### **Report:**

I am currently a fourth year resident in Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Hospital de Santa Maria in Lisbon and I applied for this fellowship because digestive oncology is one of my main areas of interest.

I was received by Professor Julien Taieb, chief of the department of Digestive Oncology. It was very interesting to understand that, in some French hospitals, patients with malignant diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, liver and pancreas are managed in a department apart from General Oncology, giving the opportunity for gastroenterologists to be specialized in this area. The chance to contact with a different type of organization is extremely important for our medical education.

During my four-week fellowship, I followed colleagues in their daily activities, mainly outpatient consultation, day care unit and multidisciplinary meetings.

Outpatient consultation was the main activity. Follow-up consultations were more frequent than initial ones and it was very interesting to see the close relationship between patient and doctor and to learn more about how to give bad news and how to manage patients' expectations. The most frequent cancers were gastric, colonic and pancreatic neoplasia, but I also had the chance to follow colleagues specialized in neuroendocrine tumors (mostly of pancreatic or unknown origin) and gastrointestinal stromal tumors. Furthermore, I had the chance to join the Oncogenetic consultation where I could learn more about familial cancer syndromes and genetic counseling.

Multidisciplinary meetings happened twice a week. On Wednesday, the main goal was to discuss therapeutic options for patients undergoing chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy. On Thursday, the meeting was extended to surgical strategies as it was attended by general surgeons, gastroenterologists, pathologists, pharmacologists, etc. I also joined the inter-hospital meeting about neuroendocrine tumors at Hôpital de Clichy where colleagues from different hospitals of Paris meet to discuss this type of clinical cases.

In Digestive Oncology Day Care Unit, I learned about intravenous and intra-arterial chemotherapy regimens and also about how to manage acute and late side effects of these treatments. I also had the opportunity to experience the inpatient care department as well as a small department where patients are admitted for short term procedures as hepatic chemoembolization.

I would like to express my special thanks to Prof. Taieb for his kindness and hospitality and for sharing his great enthusiasm about Digestive Oncology with me during these weeks. I also want to give my sincerest thanks to all staff of the department for receiving me with warmth and for sharing their knowledge with me.

To conclude, I am sure this opportunity had strongly enriched my professional and personal skills. I totally recommend GI residents to apply for this fellowship and, finally, I want to thank ESDO Governing Board for this great opportunity and for all the support.