

## ESDO TRAINEE FELLOWSHIP REPORT 2019



Name of Fellow: Tatia Khachidze  
Country of Origin: Georgia  
Fellowship Institute: Erasme University Hospital, Brussels, Belgium  
Fellowship Host: Professor Jean-Luc Van Laethem  
Date of Fellowship: 01 August 2019

### Report:

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the European Society of Digestive Oncology (ESDO), for having granted my visiting training Fellowship at Erasme University Hospital, Brussels, Belgium.

It was a great pleasure to be part of the ESDO Fellowship Programme 2019. I want also to express my gratitude to Professor Jean-Luc van Laethem.

I am happy for having been involved in the Fellowship Programme 2019, and I consider myself very lucky because I had this unique chance to visit and also work under the supervision of Professor Jean-Luc van Laethem.

I was welcomed very warmly when I arrived. During the first day I had a small tour of the hospital, Professor Jean-Luc van Laethem introduced me to the staff, and I learned some administrative things about the hospital and my future training.

My working day started at 9 am and I spent a lot of time in consultations with doctors specialising in different diseases, attended multiple procedures and had the opportunity to participate in multi disciplinary meetings. I was able to observe the management of patients with different GI diseases and GI cancer, which will be of great benefit for my future practice. I got actively involved in the different activities of the service. I also worked in a good atmosphere with the other fellows.

During my stay, I was included in the scientific activities such as weekly staff meetings where different cases seen during the week were discussed. It was great for me to listen to the discussions at this level. All cases were evaluated in detail in order to adopt the best management for each patient. These scientific activities added a lot of experience and scientific knowledge and paved my way for further scientific plans.

During my fellowship, I learned a lot about the diagnosis and treatment of GI disorders. I actually saw some diseases that I only read about but had never encountered before. It was the experience of a lifetime, as I could see how doctors work in Belgium, and I met a lot of interesting people and professionals who were very happy to share their knowledge with me. I am absolutely sure that the knowledge I gained will help me in my future practice.

It was a very fruitful stay that helped me scientifically and socially. I would strongly recommend the ESDO trainee fellowship for other residents, young gastroenterologists and oncologists willing to extend their knowledge.

Once again, I am deeply grateful for the great opportunity!