

An excellent achievement has a name and a story behind. The international bursary granted me in 2017 from ASGBI/BASO stands as milestone in my surgical career. This program offered for surgeons native of developing economies, including Republic of Moldova, provided me with the unique opportunity to acknowledge with outstanding UK healthcare. The bursary included a perfectly-organized scientific and social program, completely financially covered, with a 2 days' hospital observership and further prominent event-attendance – Safer Surgery 2017 Glasgow Surgical Week. Acquaintance with the impressive city of Glasgow was extremely facilitated due to the allowance of 125£ each received, so we shared traditional haggis pakora, outstanding local hospitality and the windy sunny Clyde. During the entire stay I was hosted at Hilton Garten Inn, a hotel extremely cozy placed in city center, just at some feet distance from the Congress venue.

My experience at Queen Elizabeth University Hospital Glasgow begun in the Monday morning, Labor's Day, meeting Dr. Simon Gibson, a receptive and highly-competent consultant upper-GI surgeon, whom I joined for the morning patient rounds. It was impressive to see just single-patient rooms, multipotent IT system of case files, handy paper files and indications. Although no electives for that day, 6 emergent interventions were undertaken by Dr. Tarek Katbeh, who exigently performed and kindly answered to relevant questions. In the midst of, ward consultations and multidisciplinary management proved at high level. The next day, a challenging laparoscopic sigmoid colectomy was remarkably performed by Dr. Richard Malloy, an experienced colorectal consultant surgeon, assisted by an ST-2 - whom quite a significant operative part was entrusted. It was amazing to see no impediments in consumables, state-of-the-art devices and highly skilled maneuvers, supported with diligent anesthesiology that assured wide-range of patient repositions. Lots of simultaneous interventions, fully-equipped interventional radiology suite, even DaVinci Xi robotics describe the fabulous potential of this superhospital.

While at ASGBI Congress, an extended range of actual surgical background was considered. There were first class-reports, with hues of refined British humor treating challenging aspects, and othersides – approaching advanced high-yield issues. It was an outstanding scientific oratory peculiar with intelligent sarcastic highlighting of sculpted points. Although I was involved in teaching international students at home department, attended some international conferences, I couldn't ever imagine before surgical English being so potent.

The respectful, hearty attitude was abundantly met ever around. The Congress lasted 3 days and the app easily allowed to choose any section. Especially I enjoyed the sections on HPB, advanced laparoscopic surgery, fellowship experiences, BJS workshop on writing a clinical paper. Acknowledgment with cutting-edge technologies at industry exhibition proved quite useful, hands-on experience being utmost appreciated. At the prize giving reception I was delighted to receive the certificate of bursary winner from Dr. Edmund Leung from BASO, an ASGBI sponsor who supported me, whom I am extremely grateful.

An exceptional cultural event I was invited at was the Gala Dinner, that proudly has been held at the Glasgow City Chambers. Scottish music, food, and even dance socialized participants in a way I could hardly describe, but it would be suggestive to say that even me, a Moldavian, learned Scottish dances – although not without an impulsion from our coordinator, as I proved not so courageous dancer, so happy credits to Ms Bhavnita.

During the surgical week I met exceptional surgeons, distinguished professors, remarkable colleagues trainees, shared experience and contacts. This bursary assures a unique opportunity for attendees from

developing economies to meet outstanding UK and world professionals and have an inside look at a leading healthcare.

Therefore, I'd like to express utmost gratitude to ASGBI International Development Committee, to sponsors, BASO, to Mr. President Professor Rowan Parks, and enormous special thanks to Ms Bhavnita Patel, Ms Lynsey Taylor, Dr. Edmund Leung.

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**Best regards,
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