



FESSH TRAVEL AWARD 2013



Unfallkrankenhaus Berlin The Department of Hand, Replantation and Microsurgery

November 2nd-30th 2013 Awardee: Yusuf GÜRBÜZ, EMOT Hospital, İzmir, Turkey



Introduction

Unfallkrankenhaus Berlin(UKB) is a Level I trauma center which preserves all other special units including neurosurgery, cardiothoracic surgery, urology, general and visceral surgery, plastic surgery etc. Medical services have 550 beds, 25 divisions and departments, 13 operating rooms, 2 i-suite operating rooms.

The Department for Hand, Replantation and Microsurgery at the UKB is one of the largest care centers for hand surgery in Germany. There are 26 beds in this unit serving patients from all around the country. There are 8 hand surgeon consultants providing a service that treats all disorders of hand, wrist and elbow including microsurgery, with a 24h Emergency Room.

Purpose

*The program "FESSH traveling award" aims to promote the exchange of information and concepts in Europe and to help spreading best practice. Thus were my goals at this experience:

- * Being able to detect, assess, diagnose and treat specific conditions of the upper limb;
- *To visit the Hospital and to participate in routine daily activities, noting the aspects that differ from our practice in Turkey and that possibly could be improved;
- *Interact, contact and learn from top professionals, with multiple publications in the orthopedic literature world;
- *Observe the surgical technology and state-of-the art in a structure for patient care;
- *Finally, increase my expertise in wrist arthroscopy.



Daily activities

- * A typical work day usually starts at 7.30 am with the morning conference consisting scheduled and urgent operative cases.
- * At 08.00 am consultations and operations start and they usually go on until the late afternoon.
- * During my stay at the UKB, I had opportunity to access operating theatres. Sometimes I had attended orthopedic trauma surgery theatres and observed major trauma cases. I also had chance to observe different methods of fixation for fractures/nonunion of the scaphoid, metacarpals, arthrodesis of finger joints, arthroscopy of the wrist, TFCC injuries, reconstruction of lower extremity defects and nerve transfer in brachial plexus injuries. At 3:30 pm I participated the afternoon conference consisting surgeries of the day and planning scheduled operative cases of following day.

Conclusions

- *The fellowship at UKB was an excellent, enjoyable and satisfactory experience for me and I felt very welcome in the department.
- *Nevertheless the health systems of Turkey and Germany are different, hand surgeons are facing the same problems and challenges in their daily practice.
- *I think FESSH Traveling Award is the best opportunity for a surgeon to gain professional knowledge, education and technical skills.
- *I strongly encourage colleagues to apply for FESSH awards in order to pursue such programs.

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