
FESSH-Travel-Fellowship 2015 to the

Institut Kaplan Barcelona & Instituto de Cirugía Plástica y de la Mano Santander

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With the FESSH-Travel-Fellowship award I visited in 2015 Doctor Marc Garcia Ellias and his team for two weeks in Barcelona and Doctor Francisco del Pinal and his team for another two weeks in Santander.



First of all this fellowship was one of the best experiences I had so far in my life as a handsurgeon.

In Barcelona at the first day I started with some other fellows in the OR with Marc. Beside



the precise preparation technique it was from the start on a biomechanical experiences. He was explaining each decision during the case and between the patients he gave us his lectures about the wrist. Every detail about the anatomy was elucidated. I had the opportunity also to work with Angel Ferreres and Alex Lluch. Three different surgeons and in some cases three different operations methods and opinions. I have learned, that in most cases we have almost no real scientific evidence that one method is

superior to the other technique. It is always a question to make the right indication for the specific treatment for the patient. I think what really counts is the precise operation technique and the postoperative care for the patient.



Another Highlight was of course the visit of the anatomy lab of Marc. (Institute of Anatomy of the faculty of medicine University of Barcelona). We had the opportunity to watch the setup of a new experiment, and the measurement methods. Of course a precise lecture of the biomechanics of the wrist was included.

Before Santander I have never seen a a toe transfer. So it was very amazing so see a hand reconstruction with two toes. A



reconstruction with two toes. A wonderful experience was also to see the long postoperative results and the over all very good functional outcome. In this four weeks I met so many great colleagues from all over the world. I am very grateful for that. My special thanks belongs to my colleges at home, who supported me

to give me the time for traveling, PD Dr. Markus Zimmermann, PD Dr. Frank Hanes and the whole team of the Department of Traumatology.

