

# FESSH travel award 2016

## Visiting Fellow:

**Matthias Vanhees, MD, PhD**

Orthopaedic Surgeon, Antwerp, Belgium  
Antwerp University Hospital / Monica Hospital Antwerp



**24 October – 25 November**

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### Introduction:

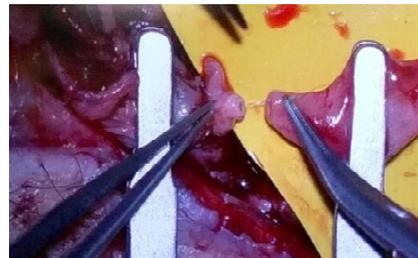
- Private practices in Santander and Madrid
- Mutua Montanesa Hospital in Santander
- Large collection of books and journals available in private library
- Three to six international visiting fellows

### Fellowship activities:

- Participate in outpatient clinic
- Assist in Surgery
- Attend teaching sessions twice weekly

### Key topics:

- Dry wrist arthroscopy
  - Indications / setup / tips and tricks / pitfalls
- Mutilated hand
  - Treatment strategy / philosophy
- Microsurgery: toe to hand transfers
  - Indications / surgical techniques
- Innovation in hand surgery
  - Intramedullary fixation metacarpal and phalanx fractures



### Conclusion:

The visiting hand fellowship with dr. Piñal has fulfilled all my expectations. During this fellowship I have been able to assist in numerous surgical procedures, such as dry wrist arthroscopy and toe-to-hand transfers. Besides showing his surgical skills, dr. Piñal also took a lot of time to teach us about his philosophy on hand surgery, and to explain about all the surgical techniques that he has pioneered. The outpatient clinic was also very interesting due to the large amount of complex cases. The majority had already been operated two times or more before consulting dr. Pinal.

To conclude, this fellowship has motivated me to continue studying, and to strengthen my arthroscopic and microsurgical skills. I am convinced that this fellowship will contribute significantly to my development as a hand surgeon.

**Acknowledgement:** I would like to thank the FESSH for giving me this travel award. I am also very grateful to dr. Piñal and his whole team for welcoming me in Santander and Madrid, and for taking the time to teach me about several topics in hand surgery.

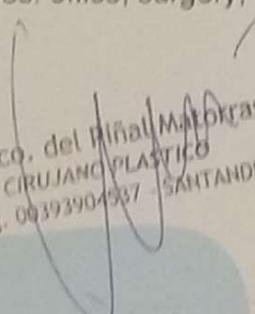


DR. PIÑAL  
Y ASOCIADOS  
MADRID-SANTANDER

Santander, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016

This is to certify that **Dr. Matthias Vanhees**, from the Antwerp University Hospital and the Monica Hospital of Antwerp, has been visiting our unit from October 24<sup>th</sup> to November 25<sup>th</sup> 2016 in the private practice and in the Hospital Mutua Montañesa, training in arthroscopic and microsurgical hand and wrist reconstruction.

During his time with us he has shown great interest to improve his knowledge in hand surgery and has attended all our activities: office, surgery, and clinical sessions.

  
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