

**Visit:** 17 April – 5 May 2023

**Learning Goals:**

- A. Hand & Wrist Surgery
- B. Peripheral Nerve Surgery
- C. 3D- Printing

**Host:**

Philipp Honigmann  
Hand Surgery Unit  
Clinic of Orthopaedics and Trauma  
Surgery, Kantonsspital Baselland,  
Liestal/Bruderholz, Switzerland



Liestal



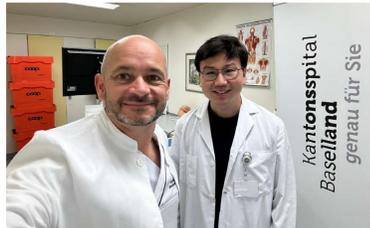
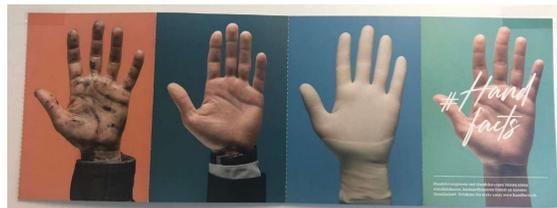
Bruderholz

**Daily Program:**

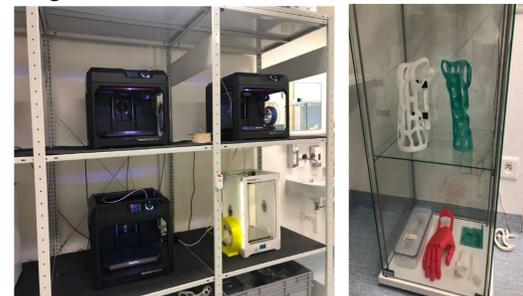
Monday	–	OR
Tuesday	–	Outpatient
Wednesday	–	OR
Thursday	–	Outpatient
Friday	–	OR

**Academic Activities:**

- Case discussions
- 3D-printing
- Sharing of microsurgery training



The first-ever 3D printed hand splint at Kantonsspital Baselland



**Surgeries:**

I scrubbed for about 1/2 of the cases here, and observed the rest (total of 67 procedures). Of special mention, I was very fortunate to be involved in two free medial femoral condyle (MFC) cortico-periosteal flaps for talus AVN, which I felt to be particularly relevant given my background in Plastic Surgery. Overall, my exposure included (highlights in bold):

**A. Bone:** ORIF hand & distal radius fractures ± allograft, primary and revision arthroplasties (**1st CMCJ**, wrist) ± autograft (iliac crest, distal radius), secondary removal of hardware (screws, plates, buried K-wires), trapeziectomy + LRTI, **scaphoidectomy + 3D-printed titanium prosthesis implantation with ligament reconstruction**

**B. Nerve:** Digital neurosynthesis, joint denervation, carpal tunnel decompression (primary & revision with extended release + synovial flap cover)

**C. Tendon:** Soft tissue mallet, trigger thumb/finger release, flexor & extensor tenolysis, **Swan-neck deformity correction with Zancolli-Tonkin procedure**, FPL repair with 6-strand Lim & Tsai technique

**D. Soft tissue:** Dupuytren's finger & palmar fasciectomy, thumb UCL & RCL repair; **suspensionplasty for 1st metacarpal subsidence**, wrist ganglion excision +/- wrist arthroscopy, wrist arthroscopic debridement of SL synovitis + open screw fixation

**E. Plastic Surgery:** lower limb local flap coverage, **free vascularized bone graft (MFC)**, Moberg flap + autologous bone graft for thumb length preservation, upper limb wound apligraf + delayed SSG for resurfacing



**Outpatient Clinic:**

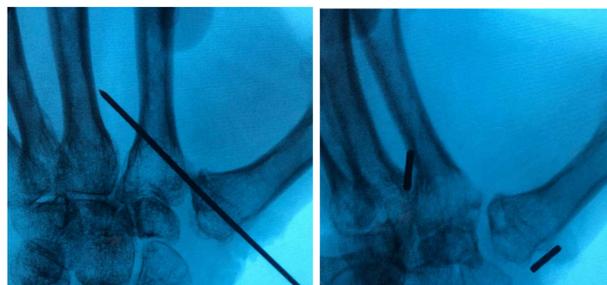
My colleagues were most patient and happy to translate for me as I do not speak nor understand German unfortunately. Nevertheless, the range of pathology that I saw was both very interesting and I thought, perfect for board exam preparation. These included:

- A. Osteoarthritis: arthrodesis (1st CMCJ, DIPJ), mucous cyst
- B. Fractures: phalangeal, Bennett's, distal radius; pathological
- C. Wrist: SLAC/SNAC → DISI, TFCC, LT repair, PRC, arthroplasty, arthrodesis, DRUJ instability
- D. Nerve: HNPP (Hereditary Neuropathy Pressure Palsies), compression (CTS, incl. irritative CTS, cubital tunnel, Guyon's, saphenous, Wartenberg), possible neuroma of PCBMN post-CTS decompression
- E. Miscellaneous: CRPS type 1 and 2, hypothenar pain, ganglion (dorsal, volar), MCPJ RCL vs sagittal band strain, Dupuytren's on background of rheumatoid arthritis, forearm lipoma

Most impressively, they were versatile in doing POC ultrasound and had a mini-fluoroscopy within the clinic itself for immediate clinical evaluation of patients, which saves time for both the patient and us clinicians, and ultimately, resources.

**Acknowledgements:**

I would like to acknowledge FESSH for providing me with the Travel Award for this amazing opportunity to not only refine my knowledge in Hand Surgery but extend my professional network, my Plastic Surgery training programme director Ankur Pandya for his continuous support of my career pursuits, and of course, the warmest of fellowships extended by Dr. Honigmann and his team. I was most honoured to be their first visiting FESSH fellow and look forward to continuing collaborations in 3D-printing for clinical and training purposes. *Dankesher, ade!*



Zentrum Bewegungsapparat

Klinik für Orthopädie und Traumatologie  
des Bewegungsapparates

Hand- und periphere Nerven Chirurgiechefarzt stv.

16.05.2023

## Certificate of Appreciation

Zhi Yang Ng has performed a FELLOWSHIP in our Unit of Hand- and Peripheral Nerve from 17<sup>th</sup> April to 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 as a FESSH Travel Award Fellow.

### Specification

The Unit of Hand- and Peripheral Nerve Surgery is a subunit of the Clinic of Orthopaedics and Traumatology. We are in charge of treatment of acute trauma of the hand and wrist including fractures of the distal forearm, sequelae of trauma, degenerative pathologies and microsurgical reconstructive surgical surgery.

Since 2022, the unit is accredited as a Hand Trauma Replantation Center of the FESSH.

### Zhi Yang Ng has been exposed to the following Hand- and Plastic Surgery pathologies

- Trauma (acute and secondary reconstruction) and sequelae of trauma to the hand, wrist and forearm
- Microsurgical Procedures
- Degenerative and rheumatoid hand surgical procedures
- Prosthetics in Hand Surgery
- Nerve surgery
- Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
- 3D-Printing in Hand Surgery

# Kantonsspital Baselland

## Academic Activities

- Outpatient Clinic
- Surgery
- Case discussion
- Continuing education

Zhi Yang Ng has shown a great interest to improve his knowledge and skills in reconstructive hand surgery, including microsurgery and hand trauma. During his visit he attended all our activities and daily practice in operating theatre and consulting rooms. He has assisted and observed surgeries in a variety of acute and elective hand cases. We trust that his stay was very instructive and profitable. It has been a pleasure to have had Zhi Yang Ng as a FESSH fellow at our department.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Honigmann', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Philipp Honigmann, MD  
Hand Surgery Unit  
Clinic of Orthopaedics and Trauma Surgery