

## **SLK- Kliniken Clinical Visit Report:**

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I would like to thank you for sponsoring my clinical visit to the Urology Department in SLK-Kliniken in Heilbronn with Professor Rassweiler for the period from the 17<sup>th</sup> April to the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

The SLK-Kliniken Department of Urology in Heilbronn has a world-renowned reputation. They offer a very high-quality training with high standard of educational exposure and supervision. They are a referral centre for prostate and renal tumours and perform all types of oncological surgery (including open, laparoscopic and robot-assisted laparoscopic techniques). In addition to this, they have a large endourology service with a large case-load of both PCNL and ureteroscopies (including robotic flexible ureteroscopies)

My visit to Heilbronn has been invaluable to me on many levels.

From the surgical point of view, I have had the opportunity to work directly with expert surgeons in their fields from whom I have learned different techniques with tips and tricks in managing a variety of complex urological cases. These included the different management options for upper tract tumours, pelvic malignancies and patients presenting with complex stone disease, using a variety of modern techniques including robotic-assisted, laparoscopic and laser technologies (including Roboflex RIRS).

I have worked with an excellent team managing prostate, renal and bladder cancers which helped me learn different skills in retroperitoneal laparoscopy (including partial and radical nephrectomies, nephroureterectomies, adrenalectomy and pyeloplasty), robotic-assisted prostatectomy and radical cystectomy.

I have also worked with a dedicated Endourology team and I have assisted in different cases including flexible ureteroscopies (including robotic-assisted RIRS), PCNL and a variety of endoscopic procedures including HOLEP. In addition, I was introduced to modern diagnostic techniques such as MRI-fusion biopsy of the prostate.

During my visit, I also attended the European Masterclass in the management of LUTS-BPH which was presented by experts in the field who covered all the new different surgical management approaches to this common urological condition.

With regards to post-operative care: I have had the pleasure of working with excellent specialist nurses and urology residents who shared with me their expertise in the fast-track, enhanced recovery, post-operative programme which I am certain will help me in my future practice.

From Academic point of view, I have worked with Professor Rassweiler and Dr Gozen on writing up two abstracts and a paper which will be soon submitted for publication. I am also hoping to continue working and collaborating with the department on future projects.

Last but not least, I hope that I have been able to make long-lasting friendships with colleagues that I have had the absolute pleasure of spending time with (inside and outside work) and who shared their life knowledge and experience with me.

I am certain that this clinical visit has been extremely beneficial in developing the clinical and surgical skills required for my future practice as a urologist, and I would like to thank you again for your support.

Kind regards,

Muhammad Elmussareh