



ESMO Clinical Unit Visit Report

FONDAZIONE IRCCS ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DEI TUMORI, Milan
01 September – 10 October 2014

Clinical Unit Visit at Genitourinary Oncology Department

Fellow: Karima Oualla, Hassan II University Hospital, Fes, Morocco

Mentor(s): Dr Andrea Necchi, Medical Oncology, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan, Italy

As young medical oncologist, I have a special interest in the management of genito-urinary (GU) tumors that remains a daily challenge in my practice. This field has known huge advances in therapeutic approaches over last years, and being from Morocco, which is a country with limited access to new-targeted therapies, pushed me to look for an opportunity to work in a specialized unit completely dedicated to uro-oncology in a leading European cancer care center. I believe that this opportunity will allow me to gain insight into GU oncology care and translational research at a top cancer centre in order to apply the acquired high quality procedures and techniques in my home institution. Additionally, it is a chance to expand my professional networks with an European institution of excellence.

Therefore, I applied to ESMO clinical unit visit after getting the acceptance from Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori in Milan and I got the chance to be accepted.



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The goals of my fellowship focused on the multidisciplinary management of GU cancers by working with other professionals from different specialties, and participating in research projects especially that I have a particular interest in immunotherapy.

I followed a weekly programme, under the supervision of Dr Andrea Necchi, which was very rich and covered different aspects of GU cancers management. I attended all weekly scheduled academic activities including clinical rounds, discussion of clinical trials protocols related to different GU cancers with monitoring of patients enrolled in the studies, different ward rounds in GU ward and transplant unit, in addition to all multidisciplinary meetings. This programme allowed me to be actively involved in all activities of the department as mentioned below:

MONDAY

Medical review and handover in GU ward.

Ward work. Management of new patients, current in-patients and ward out-patients attendances

Review with Consultants of problems that have arisen during the days.

TUESDAY

Medical review and handover in GU ward.

Dr. Necchi Day Hospital/Chemo Clinic

Dr. Procopio Kidney and Prostate Clinic

Review with consultants of problems that have arisen during the days.

WEDNESDAY

Medical review and handover in Transplantation Unit

Ward round in Transplantation Unit (Dr. Gianni)

GU Multidisciplinary Meeting

GU operating theatre



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THUSDAY

Medical review and handover in GU ward.

Medical Day Unit

Weekly unit meeting covering research/audit/management/education

Journal Club/Medical Oncology

Ward Round in GU Unit

FRIDAY

Medical review and handover in Urology ward.

Dr. Necchi, GU Clinic

Review with Pathologist

Ward Round in GU Unit

I learned a lot with Dr. Necchi especially on immunotherapy and different ongoing trials on bladder cancer, germ cell tumors and penile cancer. It was a great opportunity for me to become familiar and experienced with the newest drugs, to deal with their toxicities and treat patients according to the most up-to-date guidelines.

During this period, I was involved in a project about the Impact of bleomycin administration on the development of pulmonary toxicity in advanced germ cell tumors receiving first-line chemotherapy, that was accepted and presented as a meta-analysis in ASCO GU 2016 in San Francisco, then we wrote it as a meta-analysis manuscript that was published in a valuable journal on April 2017.



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I also got an excellent welcome among other doctors in the department which contributed a lot in enjoying my rotation from first days. I would like to thank particularly Dr Patrizia Giantempo and Dr Raga Daniele who I appreciate a lot for their professionalism and friendliness.

Finally, I am very grateful to ESMO for this great opportunity that impacted positively my career by improving my skills in oncology and enriching my knowledge in clinical trials. I would definitely recommend this fellowship to any young oncologist.

I am also thankful to all of the professionals from Genitourinary department and transplant unit at Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori in Milan.

It has also been an opportunity to build a link between both institutions for collaborating with further projects in the near future.

Morocco, 13th September 2018

Karima Oualla



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The ESMO Clinical Unit Visit Fellowships are supported by an Educational Grant from Roche

