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## ESMO Clinical Unit Visit Report

Institute Gustave Roussy  
Villejuif, France

8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 – 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018

title/subject of your visit/project

**Fellow:** Núria Chic Ruché, Hospital Clinic of Barcelona

**Mentor(s):** Benjamin Besse  
Thoracic Cancer Unit

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This past May 2018, I finished my residency program at Hospital Clinic in Barcelona with my specialty in Medical Oncology. During the last year I worked alongside with Dr. Noemi Reguart, a leading oncologist in Lung cancer and I have developed an increasing interest in the lung cancer field.

My residency program allowed me to learn the basics of how to treat patients with lung cancer. However, it was not enough for me. In fact, I was rather keen on deepen my knowledge in the proper diagnosis and treatment of thoracic cancer in a globally-recognized hospital in Western Europe as The Gustave Roussy Institute, Paris (France) under the mentorship of Prof. Benjamin Besse, head of the department.

The Institute has become a source of both innovative treatments and advanced diagnostic techniques, with multiple numbers of clinical trials and new molecular tests in order to perform a more personalized approach to the lung cancer patient. Prof. Besse is a well-recognized oncologist, with a long lasting experience in the thoracic cancer with multiple national and international conferences and publications.

As I am rather keen on continuing undertaking research projects in lung cancer, in which collaboration is necessary on an international level and clinical practice can prove relevant, the Clinical Unit Visit (CUV) program was an interesting opportunity for me. The Gustave Roussy institute could show me another point of view, and a more global approach to lung cancer patients.

During my short fellowship, I dedicated mostly of my time to attending patients, both hospitalized and outpatient. This, in turned, afforded me the possibility to truly comprehend the wide scope of oversight and medical knowledge needed for standard treatment and learning the management of new drugs in clinical trials.

During the 6 weeks, I was part of the Thoracic Cancer Unit, working alongside with Prof. Besse, Dr. Planchard and Dr. Mezquita, who solved all my doubts and questions, let me stayed in the patient's consultation and at the let me participate at tumor board. Their vast experience coupled with



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reputable expertise in the field of thoracic cancer was inspiring and motivating in order to continue my career as a better clinical oncologist.

For last, I had the opportunity to write a case report (already submitted), in which we highlighted a long-term response in a metastatic BRAF-mutated non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) to Vemurafenib and Cobimetinib, a combination treatment which has yet to be tried in lung cancer.

As a result of this program, I am keen on pursuing a career in translational research, with a focus on lung cancer genomics and immune therapies. The end result of developing such a career path would contribute to patients' outcomes provided that a more in-depth understanding of the disease can optimize patient care and diversify possible approaches to treatments and investigation studies, so as to hopefully lead to more personalized treatments, less adverse events in our patients and overall higher quality of life.

I deem my abilities as a medical oncologist to be of the utmost calibre and I am confident that my potential as an academic researcher is beyond promising. For a certainty, it has been and unique opportunity to work with the bests in the field, and in an institution that has contribute to my training and academic researcher in the current project-at-hand and other projects to come.

1<sup>st</sup> October 2018, Barcelona  
Núria Chic Ruché

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*Benjamin Besse at Institute Gustave Roussy*

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