

ESMO Clinical Unit Visit Report

The Royal Marsden

London, UK

9th May- 3rd June, 2016

Advanced Treatment Planning in Gynecological and Skin Malignancies



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Mentor(s): Dr. Susan Lalondrelle
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The aim of this project was to develop skill and expertise in the delivery of advanced external beam radiotherapy by IMRT and stereotactic methods, image-guided brachytherapy and chemotherapy including the combination of biological agents with radiotherapy in the fields of gynecological and skin cancers. This project was supervised by Dr. Susan Lalondrelle who is a consultant clinical oncologist in Gynae and Skin Units at Royal Marsden Hospital, London.

I chose Royal Marsden Hospital for my project as it is well known for its dedicated and professional approach to cancer patients. RMH has all the facilities required for advanced treatment planning for gynecological cancers including cyber knife and image based brachytherapy. I was very lucky that I got the guidance of Dr. Susan Lalondrelle who is actively involved in clinical research with particular interests in radiotherapy technologies such as intensity-modulated and image-guided radiotherapy and the combination of biological agents with radiotherapy. I observed the pathways and treatment processes observed at Royal Marsden for the treatment of cancer patients. I participated in planning chemotherapy, targeted therapy and radiation therapy. I also attended the lectures, journal presentations and multidisciplinary team meetings besides the regular outdoor, indoor and planning stations. I also completed my project on audit of management of ovarian cancer using the Hospital Information System. I hope I will be able to present this work at an international conference.

Besides, teaching of radiotherapy planning along with ward rounds went on simultaneously as per the work schedule of RMH. I enjoyed the teaching and practical demonstration of intensity modulated radiotherapy planning in gynecological and skin cancers along with the operation theatre based intra-uterine brachytherapy planning on Wednesdays. Dr. Susan also demonstrated me the basics of stereotactic treatment in gynecological cancers. Immunological pathways that are the target of current immunotherapy were also discussed along with the use of bevacizumab in cervical cancer.

The training goals focussed on imparting practical knowledge and teaching the intricacies of advanced treatment in gynecological and skin cancers which I tried to learn and will practice at my home institute. I thoroughly enjoyed my clinical unit visit and would like to thank Dr. Susan and her team and ESMO for providing me an opportunity to learn best-in-class oncology treatment planning. I would also like to thank Dr. Matt, specialist registrar at Royal Marsden who helped me in getting acquainted with the work flow of Royal Marsden. My trip would have not been possible if Romaine, Radiotherapy administrator at Royal Marsden had not helped me in completing all the formalities and paper work in time. I am really thankful to her.



10th July, 2016

Varanasi

Akhil Kapoor

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