



Travel and conference bursary report-Dr. Gayani Pitiyage 2014

It is with great pleasure and wonderful memories I write this report on my attendance to the 17th international congress on Oral Pathology and Medicine that was held from 25-30th May 2014 in Istanbul Turkey.

The conference was a great success and was attended by numerous head and neck pathologists, trainees, clinical scientists from all over the world. This provided me the opportunity to network and exchange knowledge and ideas. It was a great opportunity to meet some of the legends in the field whom I look up to and engage in some thought provoking discussions.

The meeting program was rich and covered many areas in head & neck and maxillofacial pathology. I particularly was attracted to the odontogenic tumours session and the salivary gland pathology session. There were two key note lectures that were of exceptional standards. The CPC was very comprehensive. I was able to get an update on many tumours and conditions and also learn about ongoing studies on certain newly described entities such as mammary analogue secretory carcinoma.

Over 300 posters were on display including mine. My poster on 'verrucous lesions' gained much attention with valuable suggestions. It was very interesting to learn the areas and levels of research carried out in other parts of the world.

Many interesting papers were presented at the oral paper session which I found very stimulating.

Finally this meeting became a yet another highlight in my journey towards becoming a histopathologist as I won a scholarship worth 1000£ from the British Society of Oral & Maxillofacial pathology which was announced at the AGM held in Istanbul. This is to support my trip to Harvard School of Dental Medicine to gain experience in diagnostic histopathology under Professor Sook-Bin Woo.

Overall, I have gained a lot from attending this international congress to extend my sincere thanks to PathSoc for the invaluable support provided through this travel award.