

E. NOI FELLOWSHIP REPORT – SHORT-TERM BENEFITS

NOI Fellowship Report concerning the evaluation of the short-term benefits must be sent no later than 30 days after the end of the fellowship to grant@noisk.sk. Specifically, indicate the scope of work during the fellowship in the report and highlight the achievement of goals together with the possibility of knowledge transfer for the Oncology in Slovakia. Attach the relevant photo documentation to the fellowship report.

NOI Grant with its assigned number must be acknowledged in all publications or presentations related to the fellowship results, and a citation of the publication or information about the conferences needs to be sent to grant@noisk.sk.

Name and titles of NOI Fellow:

MUDr. Mária Kotrbancová

Contact Address of the Home Institution:

Clinic of Paediatric Oncology and Haematology, University Children's Hospital, Námestie L. Svobodu 4, 97409, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia

NOI Fellowship Title and Objectives:

Clinical fellowship at the Department of Paediatric Oncology at Institute Gustave Roussy in Paris

NOI Fellowship Dates:

27.6.2022 – 29.7.2022

Contact Address of the Host Institution:

Gustave Roussy Department of Childhood and Adolescent Oncology, 114, rue Édouard-Vaillant, 94805, Villejuif - France

Overview of NOI Fellowship experience:

During the 5-week fellowship I worked at the paediatric unit "La Montagne" for adolescents (aged 13 – 21 years) with solid tumours and at the paediatric unit "La Mer" – an intensive care unit for patients receiving high dose chemotherapy with subsequent autologous stem cell transplant, but also for newly diagnosed patients with lymphomas or patients receiving standard chemotherapy for solid tumours. I participated in the daily work at the department, I examined the hospitalised patients and I actively participated in the medical visits. As we don't administer high dose chemotherapy with subsequent autologous stem cell transplant at our clinic in Banská Bystrica, I gained new experience with administration of this type of treatment and with possible complications, adverse effects and their management. I could compare international treatment protocols used in France and I gained a lot of experience with the supportive care in France (nutritional support, physiotherapy, pain management, palliative care, fertility preservation guidelines, psychosocial support, education for children with cancer etc.). I received information about active clinical trials and innovative treatment.

Several times a week I took part in multidisciplinary tumour boards. The main general tumour board held every Tuesday addressed patients with different types of solid tumours, bone tumours, sarcomas, brain tumours, ENT tumours and lymphomas. Participants of the board presented newly diagnosed patients and shared complicated diagnostic and therapeutic decisions after radiologic interpretation. In addition, I participated in the tumour board on innovative therapy and clinical studies (held every Thursday) and in the tumour board on CNS tumours and neuroblastoma, nephroblastoma (held every Friday). During these multidisciplinary meetings I gained a lot of knowledge about decision making in complicated clinical cases. Thanks to a large number of presented cases I got an overview on a wide range of diagnoses including rare diseases and hereditary cancer predisposition syndromes. I also attended lectures for younger doctors concerning different topics of paediatric oncology. I spent a lot of time participating in outpatient controls with different specialists (with my tutor Dr. C. Dufour – CNS tumours, Dr. B. Fresneau – hepatoblastoma, germ cell tumours, long-term follow up, Dr. J. Grill – CNS tumours, research programme, Dr. L. Guerrini-Rousseau – oncogenetics, Prof. V. Minard-Colin – sarcoma, lymphoma, Dr. P. Berlanga – bone tumours, neuroblastoma, nephroblastoma, Dr. Nathalie Gaspar – bone tumours, Dr. Mascard – orthopaedic surgeon). With them I also gained new experience with the

treatment of wide range of patients with different diagnoses. The doctors of Gustave Roussy Institute always answered my questions, they shared complete information about their patients, imaging studies and clinical decisions supported by clinical studies.



Possible Knowledge Transfer for the Improvements in Oncology in Slovakia:

The acquired knowledge will certainly help my personal growth and education in the field of paediatric haematology and oncology and will help me to prepare for the specialty of paediatric haematology and oncology. I will certainly share this experience with my colleagues in Banská Bystrica. I aim to emphasize the importance of local and national tumour boards. I would like to implement the international supportive care guidelines for paediatric oncologic patients. I would like to underline the importance of Slovakia being part of international clinical studies and protocols in paediatric oncology. The doctors of Gustave Roussy are opened for the cooperation in order to integrate our country into these international protocols. They have also proposed to present our Slovak patients in English on their online multidisciplinary meetings and to share their knowledge and expertise. They are also willing to accept our patients for brachytherapy or complicated surgical procedures (for example orthopaedic surgery).

Place and Date

In Banská Bystrica, 20.8.2022
