

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:grant@noisk.sk).

### **Name and titles of NOI Fellow:**

MUDr. Eva Bačová

### **Contact Address of the Home Institution:**

Department of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology, National Institute of Children's Diseases, Limbová 1, 83101, Bratislava

### **NOI Fellowship Title and Objectives:**

Optimization of Asparaginase treatment in children with ALL: current status and perspectives

### **NOI Fellowship Dates:**

2.5.2022 – 30.6.2022

### **Contact Address of the Host Institution:**

Centro Maria Letizia Verga, University of Milano-Bicocca, Hospital S. Gerardo/Fondazione MBBM, Via Pergolesi 33, 20900 Monza, Italy

### **Overview of NOI Fellowship experience:**

Thanks to the support of the NOI grant, I was able to participate in an internship abroad at a workplace focused on the treatment of pediatric hemato-oncological diseases in Monza from 2/5/2022 to 30/6/2022. The Center for Pediatric Hematology and Oncology in Monza (University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy) is one of the largest centers not only in Italy but also in Europe. Pediatric oncologists in this center under the leadership of Prof. Carmelo Rizzari work on clinical and translational research in the field of childhood leukemia with special interest in both traditional and innovative treatment procedures. In addition to leukemias, they also treat lymphomas, myelodysplasias, histiocytosis, and other diseases from the ranks of non-oncological hematology. Prof. Rizzari is one of the leading figures in the world dealing with the impact of asparaginase on the treatment of childhood leukemia, and during my internship I had the opportunity to discuss with him many aspects of its use, monitoring its activity and managing adverse effects. During the internship, I spent a long time in the inpatient department of pediatric hemato-oncology, where I participated in sessions with doctors and the entire team, together with Italian colleagues I participated in patient examinations, differential diagnostic decisions, diagnostic procedures, examinations and the insertions of central venous lines. Thanks to the participation in the same clinical study AIEOP-BFM ALL 2017 for the treatment of ALL, we were able to compare experiences and discuss together the most common problems and get inspired to solve them. In addition to the inpatient department, I spent part of my internship in Daily Clinic, which was a great inspiration for me due to the huge amount of outpatient care and so the minimization of the need of hospitalization, so most patients can undergo almost all oncology treatment in an outpatient form. Once a week, a joint session of the Department of Oncology and Hematology and the Bone Marrow Transplantation Unit was held, where the clinical condition of patients and more demanding patients cases were discussed together with doctors from inpatient and outpatient clinics, from the department of cytomorphology, immunophenotyping and genetics. These meetings were led by Prof. Andrea Biondi, head of the pediatric clinic and one of the leading experts in pediatric oncology in Europe.



**Possible Knowledge Transfer for the Improvements in Oncology in Slovakia:**

- inspiration for new procedures and research
- experience from a foreign workplace with a different organization of work to help expand the spectrum of outpatient oncology treatment and thus increase the comfort of patients while simultaneously reducing the costs of treatment provided as part of hospitalization
- application of acquired knowledge and skills at the KDHaO in Bratislava with the aim to improve the quality of care for our patients in the diagnostic and treatment process
- the possibility of contributing to the reduction of adverse effects and the increase of the effectiveness of the use of asparaginase in the treatment of childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia
- international cooperation, which can improve the level of patient care at our workplace

**Place and Date**

Bratislava, 28/7/2022

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**Signature**