

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:

Dominika Dóczyová, M.D.

Contact Address of the Home Institution:

Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, Department of Pediatric Hemato – Oncology, National Institute of Children's Diseases, Limbová 1, 83340 Bratislava

NOI Fellowship Title and Objectives:

Haploidentical stem cell transplantation for children in Slovakia

NOI Fellowship Dates:

1.9. - 31.10.2023

Contact Address of the Host Institution:

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JH, United Kingdom

Overview of NOI Fellowship experience:

Thanks to financial support in the form of a grant from the National Cancer Institute, I was able to take part in an internship at a world-renowned workplace, the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London, United Kingdom, from 1 September to 31 October 2023. I had a rich and varied programme during my stay. I participated in daily rounds with the attending physicians on the ward, who reported daily and resolved any confusion with an associate doctor. Patients on the ward included those undergoing haploidentical hematopoietic cell transplantation. On Tuesdays and Fridays, I was at the big rounds, which were led by the consultant (the ward lead doctor for a period of time) and it was attended by other members of the team caring for the patients - dietician, nurses, pharmacist. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, I attended online multidisciplinary meetings with other teams with whom the Transplant Unit shared patients - metabolic, oncology, haematology, and immunology, where potential patients referred for haematopoietic cell transplantation were discussed, and subsequently patients who were already in the process of transplantation. Every Thursday I attended the Protocol meeting, where consultants and associate doctors, pharmacists, and nurses were present and the prepared protocol was discussed in detail with the conditioning regimen and the doses of individual drugs before the planned hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, before the administration of gene therapy or CAR T cells in each patient. I participated in several educational activities organised by different teams - transplantologists (Principles of Haematopoietic Cell Transplantation, Viral Complications after Haematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation), immunologists (New born Immunodeficiency Screening in the UK). I was able to have several face-to-face meetings and detailed conversations on current topics with several staff members - the quality manager, the dietician, several nurses responsible for patient management before, during and after the stay on the transplant unit, the pharmacists, the nurses responsible for extracorporeal photopheresis, several face-to-face meetings with my supervisor Juliana Silva (photo below). I also attended some of the procedures such as bone marrow puncture, trephine biopsy, I attended the session

where the palliative team was introduced to the parents of a child who had been transplanted and was currently in a prognostically unfavourable condition in Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, and I was repeatedly present to conversations with parents about the various currently undergoing studies.

I took part in consultations about different post transplant complications in hospitalized patients with other teams - respiratory, nephrology, pain management team, team of microbiologists and infectious disease team, gastrologists, radiologists.



My supervisor, Dr. Juliana Silva (right hand side)

Possible Knowledge Transfer for the Improvements in Oncology in Slovakia:

Several things were very inspiring for me. It was certainly a big help that they were working paperless, which means that almost everything was done electronically in their hospital information system (EPIC). On the organisational side, the way they divided the work was interesting, with the nurses playing a key role. Thanks to the great hospital information system and the great help of the nurses, the doctors had more time to do their work. I also got to know their standard operating procedures, which will help us to improve the care taking of our patients.

I deepened my knowledge of haploidentical hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, which is an excellent option for patients, for whom we are unable to find a matched donor in the international hematopoietic stem cell donor registry. I got familiar with the ongoing clinical trials, in some of which (CAR T cells for T-ALL, AML) we could also include our patients if necessary.

I met personally a number of world-renowned physicians, capacities in their field, who we can contact if needed.

I also connected the nurses from our department so that they can communicate and ask questions directly to the nurses from Great Ormond Street Hospital, as nurses are equally important in the development of oncology.

Place and Date

Bratislava, 22nd November 2023

Signature