

E. NOI FELLOWSHIP REPORT – LONG-TERM BENEFITS

NOI Fellowship Report concerning the evaluation of the long-term benefits must be sent no later than 12 months 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.

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:

Zuzana Országhová M.D.

Contact Address of the Home Institution:

2nd Department of Oncology, Comenius University and National Cancer Institute, Klenová 1, 83310 Bratislava

NOI Fellowship Title and Objectives:

Late Toxicity of Treatment in Germ Cell Tumors

NOI Fellowship Dates:

04/03/2023 – 06/28/2023

Contact Address of the Host Institution:

Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center (IUSCC), IU School of Medicine
535 Barnhill Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46202, USA

Overview of NOI Fellowship experience:

- Deepening my knowledge of the diagnosis and management of genitourinary malignancies (testicular germ cell tumors, prostate cancer, urothelial cancer, kidney cancer) thanks to observing the work of physicians at outpatient oncology clinic, discussing and consulting individual cases and participation in interviews with patients and their families. I worked with Dr. Nabil Adra, Prof. Lawrence Einhorn, Dr. Theodore Logan, Dr. Jennifer King and Dr. Nasser Hanna.
- Acquaintance with the diagnosis and management of malignant melanoma and lung cancer (some of the mentioned oncologists also specialize in these malignancies).
- Observation of the department of clinical studies and the work of specialized research nurses, the process of including patients in clinical studies, the course of studies and regular visits.
- Acquaintance with the clinic of Dr. Meagan Miller, which is focused on the long-term follow-up of cancer survivors and the possible late toxicities of cancer treatment.
- Deepening my knowledge of the administration of high-dose chemotherapy with autologous stem cell transplantation in patients with germ cell tumors at the bone marrow transplant (BMT) unit, where I attended morning sessions and rounds with Dr. Mohammad Abu Zaid and his team.
- Observation of the inpatient clinical oncology department, where I participated in grand rounds.
- Participation in tumor boards focused on genitourinary malignancies, prostate cancer and precision genomics, seminars for fellows and other lectures and events (The Cancer Research Day and others).
- I learned to work with the REDCap (Research Electronic Data Capture) program, to create databases and import data, and I also attended an official training at Indiana University (The REDCap Day).
- Learning from the world experts in oncology, the opportunity to discuss with them and ask them, see many patients and various interesting clinical cases.
- Broadening my horizons and the possibility to see oncology differently than before.
- Getting out of my comfort zone and improving my communication in English.

Possible Knowledge Transfer for the Improvements in Oncology in Slovakia:

- Bringing current knowledge and new practice in the field of oncology to my home institution of the 2nd Department of Oncology, National Cancer Institute in Bratislava, Slovakia.
- Efforts to communicate with patients according to the example I saw abroad among American oncologists – I devote more time to talking with patients and to explaining all the important information about the diagnosis, the course of treatment and the next steps.
- Talking to my colleagues about my experiences abroad in order to motivate them to also go and visit world cancer centers and learn a lot of new things.
- Presenting my experience from IUSCC at the Young Oncologists' Days in September 2023 and at the clinical seminar of my home institution in December 2023.
- Initial import of data from our Excel database of testicular germ cell tumor patients into the REDCap database and subsequent teaching other colleagues to work with the REDCap program.
- Participation in the establishment of a new outpatient clinic called "CARE FOR CANCER SURVIVORS AFTER TREATMENT" at the 2nd Department of Oncology, National Cancer Institute in Bratislava, Slovakia.
- Participation in the creation of a comprehensive follow-up plan for cancer survivors 5 or more years after cancer treatment with the help of Dr. Miller from IUSCC.
- Representation of my home institution at the ASCO GU congress in January 2024 in San Francisco with the abstract "*Longitudinal assessment of cognitive functioning in testicular germ cell tumor survivors*" and receiving the Merit Award. I worked on the presented data during my observership at IUSCC.
- Publication of the paper "*Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy (CIPN) as a Predictor of Decreased Quality of Life in Testicular Germ Cell Tumor Survivors*" in *Clinical Genitourinary Cancer*. I wrote this paper during my observership at IUSCC.
- Publication of the abstract "*Testicular cancer survivorship program at National Cancer Institute in Slovakia*" online at the ASCO Annual Meeting 2024.
- Maintaining contacts with experts in the management of genitourinary malignancies and the possibility of contacting them for consultation and advice.
- Deepening the cooperation between Indiana University and the National Cancer Institute in Bratislava in the fields of education, clinical research, and publication activities.

Place and Date

Bratislava, 06/28/2024

Signature