

My stay at Maynei Hayeshua Medical Center

I was awarded a 4,000 USD grant by IUGA at the 41th annual meeting which was held in Cape Town for observership program in Urogyaenaclogy. The observership was supposed to last for three weeks but by the goodwill of my host and the generous support of my University it was extended by 3 weeks. This allowed me to spend fruitful 6 weeks (from December 20 to January 31) at Maynei Hayeshua Medical Center in Benie Brak, Israel with Dr Gil Levy.

Dr Gil Levy has been supportive and helpful throughout my stay beginning with the signing of the host site agreement form. He helped me in selecting the best time of the visit, processing my visa, securing conducive accommodation, airport pickup and later provided me useful tips and guidance that was useful to get familiarized with the environment easily. I want to thank him very much for his hospitality.



With regard to the educational experience, the urogynecology unit of Maynei Hayeshua medical center is active four days in a week: every Sunday Dr Anat Beck (a urogynecology fellow with Dr Levy) will do urodynamic study; Monday and Thursday are clinic days and Tuesday is a day for operations. I was allowed to observe all these activities without restriction.

It was my first experience to observe a urodynamic study and Dr Anat was ideal teacher; She described and demonstrated to me how the machine is arranged and runs every week before she started. After each and every study she will interpret the findings and discuss with me how this will influence the management.

During the clinic days (Monday and Thursday) I spent a long day with Dr Levy seeing a variety of cases daily and after each case he will give me time for discussion. Every Tuesday is an operation day and it provided me great opportunity to observe different procedures live with a detail and fantastic illustration of Dr Levy. I observed incontinence procedures (TVT regular, TVT-O and Botox injection), Prolapse surgeries (from colpoctiasis to mesh surgery – he uses different types of mesh including the Uphold, proleft and the Self-Retaining Support (SRS) – a new material developed by him (Dr Levy) which is yet under clinical trial.). I also saw labial reduction and mesh removal surgeries (due to mesh erosion). Since most of these procedures are not performed in my set up, observing a number of procedures in such short period of time has been useful in deepening my understanding of urogynecology. Dr Levy has been putting maximum effort to make sure that I benefited from all available opportunities. He allowed me to observe him in his private practice at Asuta Hospital. He helped me to attend a half day workshop on obstetric anal sphincter injury organized by Israeli Society of Urogynecology and Pelvic Floor. I got also a chance to attend a workshop on TVT-O which was arranged by Johnson and Johnson at Maynie HaYeshua hospital.



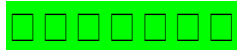
In addition to the above clinical activities I was also allowed to explore and use all the available resources in the unit including videos, textbooks and journals. During breaks and when there was free time in between patient evaluation research and long term collaboration between our institutes was discussed. In this regard we have a tentative schedule for him to visit my site in June so that my colleagues as well as my patients will benefit from his expertise. Obviously a visit by an expert like Dr Gil Levy even once or twice a year for a week will be valuable for the urogynecology fellowship program at my University.

In addition to the observations described, Dr Gil Levy helped and motivated me a lot to finalize my article on colpoctiasis which is on the process of submission for publication.

Outside my urogynecology schedule, I had the chance to spend sometime in the high risk ward as well as their busy and world class labour and delivery room. The residents as well as the senior staff were caring and very eager to share with me their perspective and listen to my opinion and experience on the cases under their care.

In addition to the rewarding academic and work related experience, I had the opportunity to explore cities and sites in Israel.

In general, the six weeks passed like six days but with lots of experience, motivation and unforgettable memories. Thank you IUGA for arranging and funding this program. Such opportunities will create great importance for skill and experience sharing in addition to paving the way for long term collaboration. My heartfelt thanks may goes to Dr Levy and his team (Dr Anat and the others) for hosting me in such hospitable manner. I would like also to thank my University for covering the additional cost required to extend my stay.



רבה תודה

Thank you very much

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