

My name is Ivan Tomić, a vascular surgeon employed in Clinic for Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Clinical Centre of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia. My clinic is one of the biggest vascular units in south-eastern Europe where more than 2500 vascular procedures are performed annually.

During my final year of residency, thanks to ESVS grant, I had an opportunity to spend two months (from October 15th to December 15th 2018.) as observer in the Department of Vascular Surgery of San Raffaele Hospital, University Vita Salute (Milano, Italy), under mentorship of professor Roberto Chiesa.

In that period, I had a chance to observe, as well as to assist in more 141 open and endovascular procedures. My main field of interest were open reconstructions of different types of thoracoabdominal aneurysms and a complex endovascular procedures on thoracic and abdominal aorta. San Raffaele hospital is really high-volume center for open surgery of thoracoabdominal aorta with excellent and very well composed team. It was especially helpful for me to improve my theoretical and practical knowledge, because my clinic is one of few centers in Europe where open surgery of thoracic and thoracoabdominal aorta are routinely performed. Some of the acquired knowledges I already had a chance to use in my hospital.

Also, I had an opportunity to introduce with advanced endovascular techniques (STABILISE, PETICOAT, FEVAR, BEVAR...).

From an academic perspective, during my two-month stay, I was invited to attend the Milano Aortic “How To Do It” meeting in December 2018, which was very interesting and offered a high number of “hands-on” workshops, covering both endovascular and open stations.

At the end, I would like to give a sincere thank to whole San Raffaele hospital team for receiving me and of course to the ESVS for making this possible.

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