

ESVS Educational Travel Grant Report

My name is Youcef Lounes, I am a Vascular Surgeon from Montpellier, France. I had the great opportunity to Visit the Vancouver General Hospital's Trauma Center part of the University of British Columbia for six months with the ESVS Educational Travel Grant.

Vancouver General Hospital's (VGH) Trauma Centre is a leading accredited Adult Level 1 Trauma Centre in British Columbia, Canada. It is also the quaternary referral centre for trauma patients in BC. As a Level 1 Trauma Centre in BC, VGH plays a leadership role in the provincial trauma system as the Designated Adult Provincial Trauma Centre for BC, and a central role in the regional trauma system as the Designated Regional Trauma Center for Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH). VGH is responsible for providing tertiary and major trauma care, including complex and unique (quaternary) trauma services, for the province. As the lead trauma center, VGH is a leader in academic programming, trauma training and research in affiliation with the University of British Columbia (UBC).

VGH provides the highest level of around-the-clock care for injured patients, from resuscitation through rehabilitation. Emergency physicians, surgeons, surgical specialists, nurses, anesthesiologists, and other professionals are always in-house and available to provide immediate care. The VGH Trauma Centre also provides leadership in injury prevention programs, fellowship teaching, community outreach, education, quality improvement initiatives, clinical practice guideline development, and trauma system planning.

My goal was to learn with the team how to deal with extreme traumatic bleeding, major cause of traumatic patient's death. With their help, I learned how to deal medically but also surgically those patient's condition. Their educational and academic program are amazingly organized with regular teaching and simulations. I could learn how to use REBOA, the principle of damage control surgery and the place of a hybrid room in critical situations.

I also had the chance to meet the vascular team (Dr Baxter K.) as well as the interventional radiology team (Dr Klass D.) performing complex vascular cases. Starting from landing zone zero for total endovascular repair with the deployment of custom-made devices with inner branches, fenestrated devices and branched devices. Challenging cases with challenging anatomy or chronic dissection.

Dr Joos Emilie, her colleagues and all the staff were all generous and committed to give me the most complete formation. I deeply appreciate their kind hospitality and their friendship. I would like to thank them all for which will be the most exciting experience of my career.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to the ESVS. Traveling inspired me and it helped me to broaden my knowledge, and my understanding of the medicine, therefore I would highly recommend it for all surgeons.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me. I would be delighted to help you with any detail. My e-mail address is : lounes.youcef@vch.ca

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