

ESVS Educational Travel Grant Report

My name is Emmanouil Barmparessos, I am a Vascular Surgeon from Athens, Greece. I had the great opportunity to Visit the German Aortic Centre at University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf for one month through ESVS Educational Travel Grant.

German Aortic Centre and its Director Professor Tilo Kölbel are worldwide well-known for their contribution in the treatment of complex aortic diseases. Professor Kölbel has been a pioneer in expanding the endovascular treatment of aortic diseases by adapting new technology and offering the best solution for his patients. He and his team, Dr. Giuseppe Panuccio and Dr. Fiona Rohlfss have created a well-organized center which offers the best possible intervention to the most demanding cases. Treating every patient with great care after scrutinizing their individual problem they manage to succeed in excellent and long-standing results. On the other hand, knowing the importance of research they have contributed in academic field.

I had the chance from the early first day of my visit to be in the hybrid operating theater and observe the way across in such interesting cases. Starting from landing zone zero continuing to the aortic arch with total endovascular debranching or hybrid repair, reperfusing of the visceral branches up to the internal iliac arteries with side-branches it is for sure Prof. Kölbel is able to confront significant variety of cases. Deployment of custom-made devices with inner branches, fenestrated devices and branched devices was done in the daily practice. I am feeling so fortune that I was able to watch all that new technology. With the fusion technique and the Fiber Optic RealShape (FORS) technology Prof. Kölbel showed to me how is it possible to outstretch any limit. Challenging cases like chronic dissection most of the time necessitate a change in strategy no matter how much prepared anyone has been in advance. These cases require experience and astuteness. I am grateful I witnessed the procedure towards the solution.

Prof. Kölbel, his colleagues and the nursing staff were all so friendly and generous. I deeply appreciate their kind hospitality. I would like also to thank Professor Dr. Sebastian Debus who is the Clinical Director. An exceptional scientist and great personality, I am thankful for he being so educational.

During my stay, it was conducted the 6th Aortic Live Symposium, such an important meeting with a worldwide participation and so many interesting live cases. The Aortic Live went hybrid this year so I had the chance to attend virtually to the congress and in parallel watch the process from the inside.

Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf is an important hospital, well-organized, with great facilities which is able to offer any kind of care. Hamburg is a fascinating city. I believe everyone would be enraptured by her simplicity and her natural beauty.

I would like to express my gratitude for being a member of ESVS. I believe my travel inspired me and it helped me to broaden my knowledge, therefore I would highly recommend it for the young 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: abuser74@gmail.com

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