ESVS Travel Grant report

As a pioneer in lower limb interventions, Dr. Ferraresi is an worldwide expert in diabetic foot revascularization, particularly in patients with Critical Limb Ischemia, performing more than 600 lower limb interventions per year. During my visit at Clinica San Carlo, Paderno Dugnano, Milan, Italy I had the privilege of joining his practice to learn from many different procedures.

My time at the clinic was highly educational, offering me invaluable insights into various revascularization techniques. I observed numerous fem-pop-crural-pedal recanalization procedures, gaining a deeper understanding of vessel preparation and revascularization strategies. This experience allowed me to appreciate the complexity and precision required in these interventions, where meticulous attention to detail can significantly impact patient outcomes. One of the critical lessons was learning the appropriate selection and use of materials like wires, balloons, and stents in different clinical situations. Each case presented a unique set of challenges, and Dr. Ferraresi’s expertise in choosing the right combination of tools was particularly enlightening. This knowledge is pivotal in tailoring treatment plans to individual patient needs, thereby improving the success rates of these interventions.

A standout aspect of my training involved the procedural details and understanding the physiological changes of the foot venous arterIALIZation procedure. This procedure offers a new treatment modality for selected patients with ‘no-option critical limb ischemia’.

Furthermore, my understanding of the pathophysiological mechanisms of Big Artery Disease (BAD), Small Artery Disease (SAD), and Medial Artery Calcification (MAC) was greatly enhanced. Dr. Ferraresi’s explanations clarified the consequences of these conditions and impact for treatment indications.

Lastly, the warmth and hospitality extended by Dr. Ferraresi and his colleagues at the Diabetic Foot Clinic greatly enriched my experience. Their willingness to share knowledge and engage in insightful discussions created a welcoming and positive environment to learn.

In conclusion, my visit to Clinica San Carlo under the guidance of Dr. Ferraresi was an immensely rewarding experience. It provided me with a deeper understanding of lower limb interventions and their impact on patient care, particularly in the challenging field of diabetic foot revascularization. The knowledge and skills acquired during this time are invaluable additions to my professional repertoire, for which I am deeply grateful.

I thank the ESVS for this great travel grant opportunity.