



REPORT

DURATION: ONE MONTH (JANUARY 29 TO FEBRUARY 29, 2024)

NAME OF TRAVELLING SCHOLAR: Dr OYIBO, Ugbede Emmanuel.

MD.FWACS(Urol), FMCS(Urol)

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: NIGERIA

POSITION: Consultant Urologist, Federal Medical Centre, Keffi. Nasarawa State. NIGERIA.

HOST AND INSTITUTION: Dr Jihad Kaouk- Zegarac-Pollock Endowed Chair in Minimally Invasive Surgery-Cleveland Clinic, Glickman Urological and Kidney institute, Professor, Director Robotic Surgery, Vice Chair Surgical Operations at the Cleveland Clinic-OHIO and Editor in Chief, urology video Journal.

INTRODUCTION

I want to first and foremost thank the endourological society for the rare privilege of spending a month at the Glickman Urology and kidney institute at the Cleveland clinic-OHI. My desire was to gather experience in the advances in minimal invasive urology and to establish contact and network with the best minds in advanced urology across the World. My experience was worth the sacrifice and contribution of the endourological society.

The life changing information came to me on May 11, 2023 when I received the correspondence from the Endourological society that I had been awarded the 2023 international travelling scholarship having applied thrice. It also came at a time when I was on my way to Cape Town-

South Africa for the Karl Storz endourology fellowship at the University of Cape Town/ Groote Schuur Hospital. It was an exciting news to me and my family with my longtime dream of been in the US and the Cleveland clinic coming to pass. The requirements for visa and its application were also seamless especially applying for an entry visa away from my country of birth was another milestone event for me.

ARRIVAL AT THE GLICKMAN TOWER-CLEVELAND CLINIC

My eighteen (18) hours flight to the US from Nigeria was uneventful and the trip was smooth as I arrived the Cleveland clinic to be received by Ms. Melanie Symons-education Program Coordinator at the institute and Dr Soputro Nicolas-Research fellow under Dr Kaouk (my trainer and host Attending). It was a warm welcome as they ensured that I had my badge, scrubs and all the needed requirements to access the hospital and its facilities. Dr Soputro was immensely helpful and assisted me to adjust to the new environment and benefit from the clinical activities at the Cleveland clinic. The process of orientation was detailed and intriguing.

The highlights of my observership was the privilege of seeing the Single port(SP) robotic platform first time in my career and more fascinating is the fact that Cleveland clinic was the first clinic to procure the SP robotic in the US was even more fascinating. I had the chance to watch SP Transvesical Robotic Assisted Prostatectomy, more importantly in patients with hostile abdomen, SP Transvesical robotic assisted radical prostatectomy(RARP) and SP partial prostatectomy in patients with prostate cancer. Another intriguing procedure was robotic partial nephrectomy in a solitary transplanted kidney which was the first of its kind to me and the dexterity was amazing. Several other procedures included Xi robotic assisted radical adrenalectomy, radical nephrectomy, nephroureterectomy and ureteric implantation. The collaboration of my trainer with other likeminded surgeons was something I imbibed during my stay in Cleveland with attention to details and regular follow-up on the anaesthetic care during the surgery.

As part of my experience at the Cleveland clinic was the morning reviews by Dr Kaouk with his research team and the numerous research topics and engagements he had to follow through and ensure that everyone was prompt in their assignments. It is worthy of note that the team publishes an estimate of well over thirty publications every year which is commendable bearing in mind the volume of clinical work and extensive commitment to travels of Dr Kaouk.

The numerous cutting edge technologies, advanced procedures and team work demonstrated at the Cleveland clinic is second to none and I was immensely challenged to provide care for patients with utmost desire for excellence and competence.



L-R Dr Emmanuel U Oyibo with the Guru of Robotic and Minimal Invasive Surgery at Cleveland Clinic- Prof Jihad Kaouk.



Photo above: Scholar with Prof Kaouk J and his research team at the Cleveland Clinic.

During theatre free days for Dr Kaouk, I had the opportunity of joining Prof Kenneth Angermeier (Director of the Genitourinary Reconstruction Programme) who welcomed me into his operating room and was willing to allow me glean from his extensive expertise which ranged from Artificial Urinary sphincter (AMS 800®) insertion for males with urinary incontinence, AMS invance (urethral sling) and various forms of substitution urethroplasty for urethral strictures. His mastery of the procedure, dexterity and attention to details with the availability of appropriate instruments was more like watching the textbook perform procedures. I cherish every moment spent with Prof Angermier and will continue to pursue optimum care and standard practice for all my patients across the World.



L-R: Visiting Scholar with the Director of Center of Genitourinary Reconstruction-Prof Kenneth W. Angermeier at the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio.

During one of those days, I stumbled on this consummate and patient surgeon-Dr Vasavada who specialized in female urology with immense sense of humor and interestingly as basic as bladder neck closure, cystocele and rectocele repair and mid-urethral sling insertion were, I had first time experience to understand the basics and the preliminary steps alongside the tips and tricks in its surgical intervention. I am indeed grateful for that opportunity.



L-R: Research fellow for Prof Kaouk, visiting Fellow from Toronto-Canada and visiting Endourology Society visiting travelling scholar.

Every Monday, I had a stimulating meeting at the PGY1-4 and Chief conference where residents presented topics of importance to their training under the supervision of an experienced attending and trainer. Other enriching conferences were the monthly endourology conference on Wednesday and the residents lecture which was so timely and highly academic showcasing the presentation skills and the ability to critique journals during conferences.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/SOCIALS

During my stay in Cleveland, I had the rare privilege of been invited by a group of doctors to their home to share experiences and also have lunch at their home. It was on the invitation of Dr Ramos Roxana a research fellow to Dr Kaouk. The meeting was so exciting and a time to meet with families and share experience. My gratitude to Dr Neal Chaisson MD (Intensive care Medicine Specialist and a Pulmonary Physician-Cleveland Clinic), Dr David Peereboom MD-Brain tumour and Neuro-oncologist, Cleveland Clinic (and his dear wife) who made their home available for such fellowship.



Once again, I wish to offer my sincere appreciation to the endourological society for this golden opportunity of being the international travelling scholar for 2023 and particularly the sacrifices of Michele Paoli towards my travel and place of observership is highly appreciated. I can't thank Prof Jihad Kaouk enough and his wonderful team: Drs Nicole Soputro, Roxana Ramos, Adriana, Chavali Jay and Melanie Symmons for their warm welcome and their support throughout my stay in Cleveland clinic and in the city.

I want to personally appreciate Ms Michelle Paoli for her sacrifices and understanding during the days preceding my arrival in the US and her facilitation of my training at the Cleveland Clinic. I am immensely grateful for your assistance and same to the Scholarship committee.

In conclusion, my period at the Cleveland clinic, Ohio afforded me the rare privilege of acquiring inestimable knowledge and skills in the management of my patients and stimulating hunger in me for scholarship and networking across the World. The opportunity afforded me of meeting great minds like Prof Jihad Kaouk is immensely memorable. This scholarship represents a noteworthy landmark in my professional career and I am indebted to the endourological society for the rest of my career and indeed the advancement of the highest professional care to patients in Nigeria and around the World.