

Profession & Career

Evaluation & Report of Observership Visit

Name & contact details of Observer:

If you want to contact the Observer, you have to be logged in as a member.

Host ECC:

95 - Microbiology, Greater Glasgow & Clyde [United Kingdom]

Start of Observership Visit

29-02-2016

End of Observership Visit

04-03-2016

Part 1 - Programme Evaluation

1. How did you learn about this programme?

- ESCMID website

2. To what extent did your Observership visit meet your expectations?

I am very glad to have had a nice experience with very professional and friendly people. The observership meet my expectations because they provides not only testing for the diagnosis and the typing of legionella species but also epidemiological information.

3. Was the host ESCMID Collaborative Centre the right choice? Why?

I think that the Scottish Haemophilus Legionella Meningococcus & Pneumococcus Reference Laboratory has been the right choice. It gave me the opportunity to see all the testing regarding to Legionella but not only.

4. How do you rate the Observership visit overall?

Excellent

Part 2 - Report

Report:

On February-March 2016 I visited the Scottish Haemophilus Legionella Meningococcus & Pneumococcus Reference Laboratory (SHLMPRL), Microbiology, Greater Glasgow & Clyde for a week.

I had the opportunity to observe Dr. Diane Lindsay, who not only shared her expertise and describe her routine work but also made me feel welcomed. I really appreciated her kindness and friendship.

During my observership at the SHLMPRL I watched and gained practical experience in all areas of Legionella diagnosis and identification. In particular, I witnessed up close testing and typing of legionella isolates by methods such as: phenotypic (agglutination and monoclonal subtyping, urinary antigen and antibody testing,) and genotypic (mip specification and sequence based typing).

Everyone on the team was really nice and it felt as if I was part of it. I was able to attend daily laboratory procedures not only regarding Legionella but also for Pneumococcus, MRSA etc. I also spend some time in the routine water lab where samples are processed, inoculated and incubated.

I had the opportunity to be part of a practical Parasitology Workshop on Scottish Parasite Diagnostic and Reference Laboratory, in March 2016. I found the workshop useful as I increased my general knowledge about all parasites as well as cryptosporidia and their role in water microbiology.

I am hoping to implement some of the lab methods and diagnostic techniques I witnessed during my observership, in my department, in the new Legionella water and diagnostic lab that is to be set up in Albania. I look forward to use my knowledge attained at SHLMPRL, to solve potential epidemiology issues regarding Legionella, once our lab is up and running.

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