



REPORT OF THE 2015 GORDON SIGNY FELLOW

BY

JULIO A. DIAZ-PEREZ

I am extremely thankful to the World Pathology Foundation for granting me the Gordon Signy scholarship, which helped me to cover expenses of my 1-year training in Dermatopathology.

I undertook my clinical fellowship under the supervision of **Professor Omar Sanguenza**, Chief editor of the American Journal of Dermatopathology. In WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER Prof. Sanguenza has established a world hub specialized in diagnosis of skin diseases. This center is recognized as a teaching facility for the major organizations in dermatopathology, including the American Society of Dermatopathology and the International Society of Dermatopathology. Trainees both dermatologist and pathologist from several countries have visited this center to learn dermatopathology. During my time in the division fellow mates, visitors students and short visitors from United States, Canada, Ecuador, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Argentina, Brazil, India, Peru, Mexico, and Uruguay were present during different times. I also interacted with many dermatologists, pathologists, residents of pathology and dermatology, and clinical fellows in other specialties, all of whom were exceptionally kind and helpful.

From the first day I joined the division, after a warm welcome and orientation, Prof. Sanguenza explained a detailed program. I started with the review and sign out of a large quantity of skin pathology cases reaching in average 200 cases per day. These cases were reviewed with Prof. Sanguenza in an eighteen-headed microscope. The cases reviewed include in-house cases and several consult cases from different places within the United States and around the globe. I participate in the weekly journal clubs or clinical meetings where several research articles and patients were reviewed, this activity was especially important because I have the opportunity to learn and interact with clinical dermatology patients. A comprehensive clinic pathological evaluation that includes the review of clinical images, histology slides, and in required cases immunohistochemistry and immunofluorescence was performed in every case.

Furthermore, around 200 teaching boxes of 50 slides were reviewed together with my fellow mates and Prof. Sanguenza. Lectures from in-house and guest dermatologist and pathologist regarding soft tissue pathology and inflammatory skin diseases were also frequent. My responsibilities included the retrieval of consulting cases and assist Prof. Sanguenza in the dictation of cases. I also directly participated in ordering ancillary studies, such as immunohistochemistry and immunofluorescence.

A monthly assessment that include 50 clinical questions and 50-slides assessment was performed by Catherine Klapak the fellowship coordinator, this evaluations were performed to evaluate the progress of fellows.

Parallel to my training in Dermatopathology I was able to enroll and attend to the 1 year long Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Dermatology under the supervision of Dr. Ian McColl in order to learn appropriately clinical dermatology and be able to establish high quality clinic pathologic correlations.

I had the opportunity to write under the supervision of Prof. Sanguenza several chapters in a new book of Infectious Diseases in Dermatopathology (1-8), a chapter about eccrine sweat glands morphology and physiology for another book (9), and a review article about molecular pathology in vascular lesions (10). Additionally other books about collagen diseases of the skin (11), and other about cutaneous amyloidosis are in reparation (12). Furthermore, a research proposal to study cutaneous neoplasms induced by virus was produced and is in evaluation, this proposal is planed to be the starting point of research collaboration with the Colombian Cancer Registry in the City of Pasto.

I will be taking my board exam certification in Dermatopathology sponsored by the International Society of Dermatopathology and the International Board of Dermatopathology next September in the city of Santa Cruz in Bolivia.

Overall, I am extremely satisfied with my training in dermatopathology. I am grateful to The World Pathology Foundation for funding me this undeniable great opportunity in my professional career. I want to thank specially to Dr. Henry Travers and Ms. Madeleine Luetzelschwab for their cordiality during my application.

Sincerely,
Julio A. Diaz-Perez

References

Chapters

1. Diaz-Perez JA, Sanguenza OP. Leprosy, In Tropical Dermatopathology. LANGE Clinical Medicine, McGraw-Hill Medical, London, UK. 2015.
2. Diaz-Perez JA, Sanguenza OP. Cutaneous Phaeohyphomycosis, In Tropical Dermatopathology. LANGE Clinical Medicine, McGraw-Hill Medical, London, UK.
3. Diaz-Perez JA, Sanguenza OP. Rickettsial Infections, In Tropical Dermatopathology. LANGE Clinical Medicine, McGraw-Hill Medical, London, UK. 2015.
4. Diaz-Perez JA, Sanguenza OP. Tularemia, In Tropical Dermatopathology. LANGE Clinical Medicine, McGraw-Hill Medical, London, UK. 2015.
5. Diaz-Perez JA, Sanguenza OP. Dengue, In Tropical Dermatopathology. LANGE Clinical Medicine, McGraw-Hill Medical, London, UK. 2015.
6. Diaz-Perez JA, Sanguenza OP. Bacterial Mycetoma, In Tropical Dermatopathology. LANGE Clinical Medicine, McGraw-Hill Medical, London,

UK. 2015.

7. Diaz-Perez JA, Sanguenza OP. Sporotrichosis, In Tropical Dermatopathology. LANGE Clinical Medicine, McGraw-Hill Medical, London, UK. 2015.
8. Diaz-Perez JA, Sanguenza OP. Chagas Disease, In Tropical Dermatopathology. LANGE Clinical Medicine, McGraw-Hill Medical, London, UK. 2015.
9. Diaz-Perez JA, Sanguenza OP. Anatomy and Physiology of the Sweet Glands. In Dermatopathology. LANGE Clinical Medicine, McGraw-Hill Medical, London, UK.

Review

1. Diaz-Perez JA, Sanguenza OP. New insights in Vascular Lesions Development and Identification with Immunohistochemical Markers. American Journal of Dermatopathology 2015.

Books

1. Diaz-Perez JA and Sanguenza OP. Collagen Diseases of the Skin. 1Ed. 2015, Paperback, Pages 200. JP Medical.
2. Diaz-Perez JA and Sanguenza OP. Cutaneous Amyloidosis and Other Deposit Disorders. 1Ed. 2016, Paperback, Pages 200. JP Medical.