

- **Name of Scholar (Family Name/First Name):** Solange Ferraguti.
- **Country of Citizenship:** Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA.
- **Name and Country of Training Center:** Department of Trauma Surgery. *Maastricht University Medical Center*. Maastricht NETHERLANDS.
- **Name of Fellowship Director:** Pascal Hannemann, MD, PhD, FEBHS.
- **Scholarship Type (Program B or C):** C.
- **Type C: name of research project or literature review:** “Distal oblique bundle reinforcement for the treatment of bidirectional DRUJ instability, mid-term functional results”.
- **Scholarship date (from – until):** April 1st-June 30th



1. What were your professional and personal expectations of the scholarship?
 - My personal expectations of the scholarships were to learn new skills in a hospital, specialized in hand and wrist surgery and hand and wrist trauma, to see innovations in techniques in that field, and also to see a different healthcare system structure and how the logistic works, to better health outcomes at a reference university hospital in the Netherlands.
2. What is the main focus of the IBRA training centre (in general and of the department) you assisted in?
 - The main focus would be acute trauma of hand and wrist. Unfortunately, due to Covid 19 restrictions in the hospital, mainly acute care took place and elective cases were not or hardly treated. As a difference with my country, in the Netherlands 2 different specialties are involved in treatment of injuries of the musculoskeletal system. In this centre, I was doing my fellowship with trauma surgeons, who specialize in upper limb trauma. However, they work as a team with orthopaedic surgeons and plastic surgeons. Once a week they carry out

a clinical conference with presentation of complex cases, in which pathologies are discussed from different points of view depending on the specialties, obtaining a multidisciplinary therapeutic proposal. I liked that teamwork and exchange of ideas.

3.
 - What did you do during your scholarship/how were you incorporated in the training centre's daily routines/activities:
 - How many surgeries have you assisted and which concrete technical modifications and methods have you seen?
 - i. I have assisted in 49 surgeries, and it is a good number because one week after I had arrived, the 3rd wave of the Corona crisis occurred in the Netherlands, so almost all elective procedures were suspended. The surgeons at MUMC made such a big effort to continue doing surgeries beside the crisis, for example one day we did surgery on a Sunday morning to have the chance to operate a patient. Many of the surgeries I was able to doing myself under direct supervision of Dr Hannemann. I was impressed about how they have protocols for doing every procedure, and I have really enjoyed that. I think it is very helpful to avoid errors during the procedures.
 - Specify your 3 to 5 favourite procedures and/or new skills you could acquire.
 - i. Double approach for distal radius fracture, using the Four corner concept, would be my main new experience.
 - ii. Scaphoid non-union treated with bone graft and plate and screws.
 - iii. Distal Oblique Bundle reinforcement for dynamic instability of the DRUJ.
 - iv. Double plating for multifragmentary olecranon fractures.
 - Which procedures can potentially be adopted in your future practice and how do they compare to your experiences at home
 - i. All of them.
4.
 - What was the most significant personal experience of the scholarship for you (e.g. cultural exchange etc.)?
 - I think that it has been very impressive experience in every aspect, to let me have the experience to stay at the MUMC, and let me learn the daily life of a upper limb specialized trauma surgeon in the Netherlands at a university hospital, and how they apply the knowledge not only to the patient care, but also at the academic field.

Closing words

- Tips to future scholars (housing, traveling etc.)

This centre has facilities for doing your fellowship very close to the hospital, so housing I believe it's not a problem, because the staff has been very helpful with that.

The apartments for visitors are enough big, have a shared kitchen, laundry, and they gave you sheets and towels; also has a service of cleaning lady, that is include with the fee. Not far away from supermarkets, in a quite area. There is very good Wi-Fi in these apartments, which, in this era where the connection for webinars it's so important, it's essential.

I think it would be important to have some knowledge of Dutch language before you go, at least the basics to understand the patients in outpatient clinic.

▪ Acknowledgement (thanking IBRA and the training centre)

I want to thank everyone at IBRA for let me have the opportunity to do this fellowship. I really appreciate the time that I have spent at MUMC, Dr Hannemann, Dr Ten Bosch and his team, made me feel like home, even that we were in the middle of this Covid pandemic that limited so much our usual surgical life. I really appreciate so much, that they not only have shared their knowledge with me, but also have made the best effort to translate for me from Dutch to English, so I wouldn't miss anything that patients said at outpatient clinic, and also explain to me the procedures, having so much patience with me. They gave me a Dutch book on hand surgery, so it would be more easy for me to understand the basic of the language for every day talking, and that facilitated a lot for me to understand patients. Also a big thanks to the residents at MUMC, they were so friendly and helpful. They helped me in the operating room to be able to be on time for the surgeries (the operating room area is huge), to be able to connect to the meetings by zoom or Google meets, or simple sharing knowledge and experience, awesome people!

I highly recommend this fellowship at MUMC with Dr Hannemann, it's a great opportunity for learning, practice, get knowledge with a highly experienced surgeon. Also, I think it's remarkable that not in all places they let you perform surgeries yourself under the supervision of an experienced surgeon, which puts you to the test on what you are learning, and it is a big difference that if you only go to a hospital to see how others operate. This motivates you to study and test yourself with your knowledge every day. Letting you discuss cases among peers, and see the points of view to obtain the best result is a unique experience.



BEDANKT MUMC-TEAM!!