Masci Scholar Personal Testimony



Jonnel B. Poblete, MD, PhD

Fellow, Adult Infectious Diseases, Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, UP /PGH

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I did my clinical rotation in transplant infectious diseases at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, one of the largest and oldest transplant programs in the United States. I had the opportunity to observe the TID attendings in managing complex infections in immuno-compromised hosts. This was an eye-opening experience and allowed me to reflect and compare the difference between our transplant programs in the Philippines with that of developed countries.

I found the clinical rotation useful because I was able to see infections in transplant patients that I have never seen before including iinvasive fungal infections and cardiac assist device infections. I was also exposed to various transplant procedures not currently being done in the Philippines including liver, pancreas, heart, lung, and small intestine transplant.

I was surprised with the good outcomes of their transplant patients. I saw liver transplant patients done in the early 1990s who were still alive and healthy until today. I saw heart and lung transplant patients who were doing really well within the next 48-72 hours after their transplant.

Clinical rounds with Dr. Eun Jeong Kwak, one of the transplant ID attendings.

This clinical exposure made me realize that there is an urgent need to train Filipino ID physicians in transplant ID to improve the clinical outcomes of our transplant patients.

I shared my clinical learnings from the experience to my colleagues in the Division of Infectious Diseases. These learnings will be useful once they encounter these infections/patients in their General ID practice back in their home towns.

This experience inspired me to pursue further clinical training in transplant infectious diseases.

I would like to send my gratitude to the family of Dr. Masci and AIHA for providing this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn from one of the bests in the field of transplant infectious diseases.



Attendance in an online presentation of the results of the SNAP trial.



Clinical rounds with Dr. Fernanda Silveira, one of the transplant ID attendings.