

EUROPEAN UROLOGICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME (EUSP)

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**Clinical Visit : 1st March-31st May 2016 (3 months)
University College London Hospitals(UCLH),
Department of Andrology, London, UK**

London (the capital city of England and the United Kingdom) has a history dating back over 2,000 years. During this time, it has grown to become one of the most significant financial and cultural capitals of planet Earth. It has experienced plague, devastating fire, civil war, aerial bombardment, terrorist attacks, and widespread rioting. The City of London is its historic core and today is its primary financial district, though it now represents a tiny part of the wider metropolis of Greater London.

INTRODUCTION

University College London Hospital(UCLH) is one of the best and the biggest university hospitals in London. UCLH was officially opened by Her Majesty the Queen in October 2005. Services offered at University College Hospital include accident & emergency, hyper-acute stroke unit, cancer care, critical care, endocrinology, general surgery, ophthalmology, dermatology, general medicine, general neurology, rheumatology, orthopaedics, paediatric & adolescents, and urology.

St Peter's Andrology Unit is the biggest tertiary referral team within UCLH and has both a national and

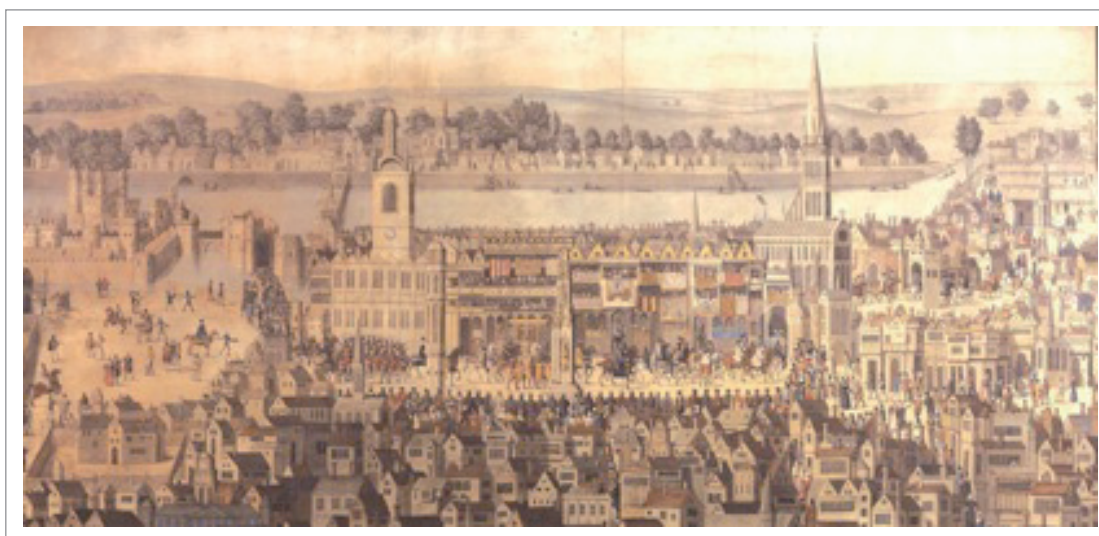


Figure 1: Ancient London.

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Received : 21 November 2016
Accepted : 22 November 2016

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international reputation. Andrology operations are mainly performed in UCL-Westmoreland Street hospital(formerly the heart hospital)

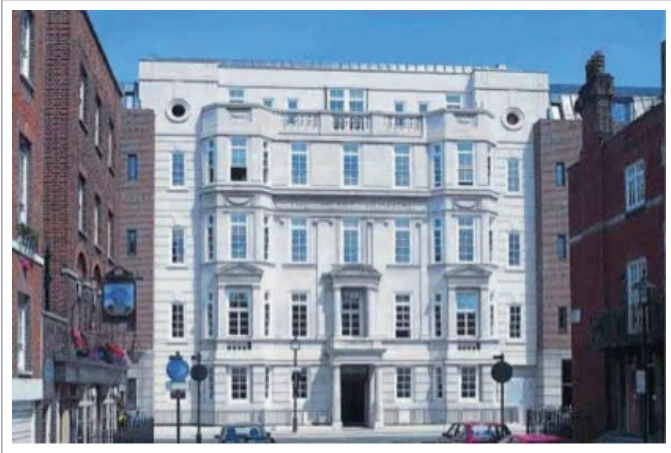


Figure 2: UCL-Westmoreland Street Hospital.

Dr.David Ralph is consultant urologist at St.Peter's Hospitals within UCLH and his practice is entirely confined to Andrology. He has a Master's degree on Peyronie's Disease. He is the president of European Society for Sexual Medicine and past president of British Society for Sexual Medicine and Andrology Section of British Association of Urological Surgeons. He runs a large multidisciplinary erectile dysfunction service and is Director of the Erectile Dysfunction Clinical Trials Unit. He runs a European training fellowship for penile prosthesis implantation as well as research fellowships studying the molecular biology of erectile dysfunction, Peyronie's Disease and priapism. He is heavily involved in postgraduate training, running live surgery courses and lecturing both at the European School Of Urology and the American Association of Urology.

SCHOLARSHIP ACTIVITIES

On the first day, Dr. Ralph introduced me to his colleagues, his fellows and the staff members of the hospital. All the surgical fellows, consultants and the staff members were so kind and helpful. During my visit, I was very lucky to attend most of the surgical operations and outpatient clinics of Mr.Ralph as observer because in England, without being registered with the GMC, doctors can not assist or be involved in active patient treatment and surgical operations. Nevertheless, observing that andrologic operations was very important and educative for me. I also observed technical and mechanical points and tricks for prosthesis cases.

Almost all andrologic and reconstructive operations are being performed in UCLH Andrology Department and all the consultants are very talented and experienced. Beside andrologic and reconstructive operations, the team is

performing penile cancer cases almost every week. One of the most exciting operations within the observership in UCLH was phalloplasty operation. The operation is totally a miracle and needs lots of experience. All the team members were actively involved in each part of the operation.

During my clinical visit, i had chance to attend the 3rd Men's Health Masterclass(21-22 April 2016). The conference was fully scientific, well-designed and a fruitful conference with lots of live surgeries and lectures by senior mentors. Step-by-step surgical procedures for penile prosthesis implantation, penile plication, Lue procedure, sliding technique etc.



Figure 3: 3rd Men's Health Masterclass.



Figure 4: Faculty dinner of the Men's Health Masterclass.

For each week, on thursday afternoons, there were meetings to view the weekly surgical programme and the cases of the week. These meetings helped me to understand the concept of surgical operations so that I had chance to read about that

surgerical operations before the date of surgery. Also before each surgery, Mr.Ralph was giving detailed information about the surgery and the patient.

SURGICAL CURRICULUM

University College London – Westmoreland Hospital has 12 operating rooms and 4 catheterization laboratories. The hospital is an old building but there are high standarts in every fields.

Andrology operations were mostly performed in 3 or 4 of that theatres for each day.



Figure 5: University College London Hospitals.

The operations I observed during the clinical visit;

- 3 Phalloplasty operations
- 20 Urethroplasty operations
- 60 Penile Prosthesis implantation
- 10 Testicular Prosthesis implantation
- 2 Total Penectomy / Penile Cancer
- 40 Circumcision
- 20 TESE / Micro TESE
- 20 Varicoselectomy / Micro Varicoselectomy
- 5 Penile Lengthening operation
- 5 Epididimo-vasostomy/Vaso-vasostomy
- 50 other specified penile or scrotal plastic / reconstructive operations



Figure 6: My house in East London.

I was living in East London, Bow, nearby one of the most famous markets, Roman Market. I was using the public transport and the public transport is extremely great in London. The only handicap of London is its expensiveness. Everything is more expensive when comparing other European cities.

CONCLUSION

As an EAU Scholar, the clinical visit in University College London Hospital, allowed me to gain a great experience and knowledge about Andrology and Sexual Medicine. I strongly recommend all urology residents and young specialists who are interested in Andrology and Sexual Medicine to consider UCLH, Department of Andrology for clinical visit and long-term fellowship.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to send my special thanks and regards to Mr.David Ralph, Mr.Giulio Garaffa, Mr.Nim Christopher, Mr.Asif Muneer, Mr.Chris Poullis for their excellent mentorship. I would like to thank all the hospital staff, nurses, Andrology fellows, especially Dr.Ayo Kalejaiye, Dr.Saskia Morgenstern, Dr.Marco Capece, Dr.Marco Falcone. Finally I would like to thank EUSP for providing us this priceless opportunity and Ms.Angela Terberg for her collaboration and helps before and during the clinical visit.