

## Gordon Signy Fellowship Report

**Fellow:** Dr Kalpana Singh

**Mentor:** Prof. Dr Marta Cohen

**Institution:** Sheffield Children's Hospital (NHS Foundation Trust)

**Focus Area:** Pediatric and Perinatal Pathology

**Location:** Sheffield, United Kingdom

**Time period:** April and May, 2022

### My fellowship at Sheffield Children's Hospital (Gordon Signy Fellowship)

At the outset, I would like to place on record, my boundless gratitude for the World Pathology Foundation for giving me an opportunity to undertake this life-changing Fellowship in Pediatric and Perinatal Pathology at Sheffield Children's Hospital (NHS Foundation Trust) under the guidance of Prof Dr Marta Cohen, who is one of the world's foremost authorities in this field.

Sheffield Children's Hospital (NHS Foundation Trust) is a world-class tertiary referral hospital based in Sheffield, UK that caters exclusively to children from the ages of 0 to 16 years of age. I spent 2 months here under the guidance of Prof Marta Cohen, focusing on pediatric and perinatal pathology using a case-based approach.

During my fellowship, we focused on surgical pathology & port-mortems in this specialized area. We covered approximately 450 surgical cases during this period along with approximately 90 autopsies. I reviewed slides pertaining to surgical cases covering a wide variety of areas such as Pediatric tumors, Soft-tissue tumors, Kidney biopsies, Liver biopsies, Gastro-intestinal biopsies and skin biopsies. During this process, I got exposure to a wide range of rare syndromes. I also got to focus on perinatal pathology which is a relatively nascent field. This included the examination of term placentas as well as pre and post term placentas. I saw, firsthand, the impact of COVID-19 on placental tissue and its correlation with maternal and fetal outcomes.

I also participated & observed multiple hospital, coroner and forensic autopsies. Perinatal autopsies included cases involving fetuses from the ages of 8 weeks to full-term. I also got tremendous exposure to SIDS cases (a very rare condition in my country). I got to understand various protocols that are followed around various investigation panels for the diagnosis of SIDS and other rare pediatric syndromes. I also participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> Seattle Children's and Microsoft SIDS Research Summit. I also got to participate in Multi-Disciplinary Meetings (MDTs) which helped me better understand the clinical presentation of different cases and their management protocols.

This fellowship was a life-changing experience for me, having given me wide exposure, not just to how medicine is practiced in the UK but also to so many rare syndromes and conditions. Working with the incredibly skilled, knowledgeable and diverse team at the Histopathology lab at the hospital was an amazing experience and helped broaden my horizons.

I learned a tremendous amount during these two months and am sure that I am a much better doctor now than I was before this Fellowship. None of this would have been possible without the generous

support of the World Pathology Foundation, for which I am extremely grateful. I am also incredibly lucky to have gotten an opportunity to work with an intellectual giant like Prof Dr Marta Cohen who is not only one of the world's foremost experts in this field but is also an incredible human being whom I will always look up to.



Photo clicked at the Histopathology Department at Sheffield Children's Hospital (NHS Trust). Me (third from the left), Prof Dr Marta Cohen (second from the right) with our teammates.