

## The Journey is about to end:

### 2 years in the Far East

By end of September 2014, I have completed my training at Chang Gung Memorial Hospital in Taiwan. It has been a great journey full of hard work, great learning opportunities and friendships that might end for life.

I have rotated among all plastic subspecialties, such as Burns, Trauma Plastic, Reconstructive Microsurgery as well as Craniofacial Surgery, where I was given huge opportunities to develop my own skills, and thinking process for management and patients follow up.

I have also participated in some research studies, and I am a principal investigator in "Flaps perfusion study", which is quite an interesting topic and might end up with good results.

I have helped in 5 publications writings, 2 submitted, one was accepted last week by PRS, which is about warping prevention of the costal cartilage in the nasal reconstruction.

I have made great and lifelong friendships with co-Fellows and visitors and my supervisors, which will help me much in the future.

I am thankful for Interface Uganda, which made my training journey easy by funding me, which made me comfortable, focused and less distracted during my time here. I don't think I could have done that without your generous support, which I hope will continue in my future training, technical support with visiting doctors as well as helping with instruments if there is a possibility for that.

As, I have discussed with Dr Andrew Hodges on many occasions, I would need expert support in my beginnings, as it is impossible to do everything by yourself, and I hope my learning will go smoothly back home as well, as I will not stop at this 2 years experience as plastic is a rapidly evolving specialty.

My future plans in points are:

- Raise awareness of community of Practice – make presentations and meetings with the different specialist Associations of medicine- to show what I can offer.
- Use the staff – Anesthesia, Scrub nurses, nurses, etc - who are already working there, and try to work with them on handling Reconstructive cases.
- Start providing the service in Trauma Surgery and Cleft Surgery, where people are more aware and eager for help, and patients in dire need.
- Start cooperation with Head and Neck surgeons and Breast Surgeons, but in step manner, as cases are usually difficult and complicated.
- Enroll trainees who are really interested – 2 to 3 to begin with- and start getting them on in training.

- Ask for help from Visiting Professors I know, after I collect cases, where I can start a home based training model; where we don't have experience in very specialized fields, we can collect cases and they visit us and demonstrate in a short period.
- Cooperate with specialists in the region and international for better care and good Practice.
- Start to make specialized divisions, through interest of junior trainees.

These are my plans in nutshell, but under each heading, I have a lot of details, and plan of action to follow.

I wish your support would continue and I will stick to my hard work to achieve my goals.

With much regards,

Mohamed

Taiwan