

APFP REPORT by Dr. Leah Githinji

FELLOWSHIP IN PAEDIATRIC PULMONOLOGY AT RED CROSS WAR MEMORIAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

1ST FEBRUARY 2012 TO 30 NOVEMBER 2012

I joined the APFP fellowship in February 2012. It was a miracle for me to have been accepted to the programme on a very short notice having started my subspecialty training programme in the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, Durban.

My previous boss in UKZN had tried to make sense in me to complete the 2 yr programme; He kept telling me that he could see a lot of potential in me, but I told him that it was difficult to stay on for 2 years as a self-funded fellow. Towards the end of 2012, I felt it was not time to leave yet and I shared this with Prakash Jeena my previous boss in Durban and he agreed to write an email to Prof. Zar recommending me for a post should a vacancy arise. Thanks to Prof. Zar and the APFP committee for accepting me to the programme on a very short notice. This was surely a miracle; it's definitely not the norm.

I did rotate in allergy for 2 months and enrolled to write the Diploma in Allergology exams. The experience in allergy was phenomenal both at Red Cross and at the UCT lung institute. Many thanks to Prof Porter who could allow me to sit along with him in the office when he was seeing his private patients. The weekly journal club and lectures besides the daily clinics was a great pool of experience and a good recipe for exam preparation.

I spent the rest of my time in the Paediatric Pulmonology department. The clinical exposure has been great. The fact there is a consultant who reviews every patient I was called to see while doing 'service' is a great strength for the training programme. I did enroll for the Pulmonology exams. Thanks to Marco, Aneesa , Naisan for supporting me in my clinical exam preparation. Committing to write the exams for me made me concentrate on some clinical details which I probably would not have been so keen WITHOUT AN EXAM IN MIND

Thanks to Avril who went out her way for me in many occasions especially with the challenges of registration and all Glory to God who has makes all things beautiful in His time and brings to completions the work that He started in me. It is been a long walk from January 2011 to this Dec 2012, sometimes felt uncertain but at This end as I hold my two CMSA subspecialty certification in Allergology and Pediatric Pulmonology is certainly beautiful and fulfilling. The sky is not even the limit when we believe in the power and the potential in us.

Many thanks and God bless for all who have helped me realize my dream. To my APFP fellows, as you focus on the goal that brought you here then you can keep moving.

Regards,

Leah Githinji

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