

## Student Elective Report

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| <b>Name</b>             | Jvalant Parekh           |
| <b>Medical School</b>   | Leicester Medical School |
| <b>Email (optional)</b> |                          |

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| <b>Country visited</b>               | Brunei   |
| <b>City or town</b>                  | Bandar Seri Begawan  |
| <b>Hospital/unit/clinic</b>          | Pantai Jerudong Specialist Centre – Oral, Maxillofacial and Facial Plastics Department |
| <b>Dates visited</b>                 | 04/03/19 – 15/03/19  |
| <b>Supervising doctor</b>            | Dr Nagamuttu Ravindranathan  |
| <b>Contact details of your host:</b> |  |

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| <b>Please give an overview of what you saw / did (200 words max)</b> | <p>This was the second part of my elective in a country I grew up in. I was taking part in clinics – taking patient histories, examining a range of cases for both plastic surgery as well as maxillofacial surgery. I was fortunate enough to receive excellent supervision from my mentor whilst there, Dr. Ravi, who ensured that I developed a thorough understanding of the conditions we saw and relevant topics in relation to them.</p> <p>I took part in MDT meetings, international radiological review meetings and had a great chance to be scrubbed in and assist in many of the procedures. The diverse range of cases included small biopsies of oral lesions to blepharoplasties and squamous cell carcinoma resection on the face and scalp with subsequent reconstruction. They also had a dedicated onsite prosthesis lab which custom made any prosthesis including eyeballs and ears.</p> <p>I also developed my skills further by writing a case report on a case of Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis which I was also able to take forward to present at a conference.</p> |
| <b>What were the best things about the visit? (120 words max)</b>    | <p>Dr. Ravi was always conscious of the fact that I was there and ensured I was introduced to everyone in the department. The positive approach taken by all who taught me left a lasting impression and definitely allowed me to make the most of my time. The excellent operating theatres with state-of-the-art facilities enhanced my experience further and I really enjoyed seeing what innovations may be brought to operating theatres in the NHS one day. It also ensured I was able to watch operations very closely without being scrubbed in due to the numerous cameras present in theatre including in the surgical light handles. Brunei is a country that I grew up in and being</p>  |

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|  | able to get involved with the healthcare system there was a unique opportunity.  |
| <b>What problems did you encounter? (120 words max)</b>  | In some cases, there were too many people scrubbed in and therefore I would have to watch cases rather than assist. However, this proved to be a good experience still.  |
| <b>What accommodation was provided?</b>  | I lived at home with family as this was the easiest option.  |
| <b>Would you recommend this to someone else? (explain if necessary)</b>                          | Definitely. Dr. Ravi as a supervisor combined with the facilities and a busy outpatient department ensured I got great mentoring, a range of exposure to surgical techniques and a wide range of conditions to see. I was encouraged to read around the subject and was able to take notes on many of the cases I was involved with. |
| <b>Are you more likely to choose a career in plastic surgery as a result of this experience?</b> | Yes, it's definitely made me consider the career and also the desire to undertake some of my training abroad to ensure I get the best range of exposure and subsequently become a competent surgeon.   |