

POGO Scholar Experience – IPOS® 2024

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From start to finish, IPOS® 2024 was a positive and truly worthwhile experience. I wanted to attend IPOS® for many years but was unable to due to previous work commitments. However, the stars aligned this year with me receiving one of POSNA’s POGO International Scholar awards.

The online pre-registration process was simple and user-friendly, and the onsite check-in procedure and badge collection was extremely efficient. The use of both the POSNA and RockLake apps also enhanced the experience and interaction of attendees.

Dr. Camille Quan Soon There were over 250 didactic presentations and interactive hands-on sessions at this year’s symposium, and a vast amount of material was presented in a concise and easy-to-understand manner. All presenters and facilitators were knowledgeable and passionate about their given topics. The question-and-answer sessions also allowed further in-depth discussion, especially about actual clinical scenarios.

More than 700 attendees from more than 20 countries, with a wide variety of skill sets, experience, and working conditions participated in the meeting. The networking opportunities afforded from such a diverse group of surgeons, allied health care professionals, and industry personnel were priceless.

The management of my paediatric orthopaedic patients will undoubtedly benefit from my attendance and participation at IPOS® 2024, and I will definitely be attending again in future, as well as encouraging my local colleagues to attend.

Post Meeting Observership

From the relative warmth of Orlando, FL, I proceeded to the bone-chilling cold of Chicago, IL, to meet my sponsor, Professor Edward Abraham, for the observership component of my POGO International Scholar experience. The objectives of the observership included seeing the standard of care provided to children in these hospitals, with a view to upgrading treatment of my local patients, as well as to forge relationships with paediatric orthopaedic surgeons who would be willing to liaise with me on complex cases in future.

During a hectic week, I attended out-patient clinics at Shriners Children’s Hospital Chicago, University of Illinois Medical Centre, and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago. I was able to see a wide range of congenital, developmental, and traumatic paediatric conditions, and to discuss the investigation and treatment of these children with the surgical staff. My host sponsor also unexpectedly included a few cultural activities in Chicago to my schedule, which were greatly appreciated and made for a truly memorable visit.

My overall experience as a POGO International Scholar was fantastic and will certainly benefit the children in my country.