

## **ESVS Educational Travel Grant Report**

My name is Eduardo Silva, I am a fifth-year in Angiology and Vascular Surgery resident in the Department of Angiology and Vascular Surgery at Coimbra Local Health Unit – University Hospital in Coimbra, Portugal.

Recently, I had the privilege of participating in a 5-week internship focused on complex endovascular aortic procedures at Hôpital Marie Lannelongue in Paris, France, thanks to the support of the European Society for Vascular Surgery (ESVS) educational travel grant.

Professor Stéphan Haulon and his team are globally recognized for their pioneering contributions to the treatment of complex aortic diseases. Professor Haulon's extensive expertise and innovative methodologies in endovascular aortic surgery establish him as a preeminent figure in this field. Hôpital Marie Lannelongue, renowned as one of Europe's most prestigious cardiothoracic and vascular centers, draws patients from throughout France and internationally, all seeking top-tier care for complex vascular conditions.

During my stay, I had the opportunity to immerse myself in various facets of the department. I observed procedures in the angio suites, hybrid rooms, and open theatres. Additionally, I spent time in the research laboratory, engaging in discussions about ongoing research projects and methodologies.

My internship included the observation of multiple complex cases, such as complete endovascular aortic arch repair, branched abdominal grafts, custom-made fenestrated abdominal grafts, treatment of complex thoracoabdominal aneurysms, and chronic aortic dissections, among others. I particularly valued participating in the planning of those intricate cases and observing how the team adeptly managed a variety of devices and techniques, including steerable sheaths, coils, plugs, in-situ laser fenestrations, fusion technology, CO2 angiography, and various endografts, balloons, and stents. Witnessing and being a part of such meticulous planning and execution of these procedures was an invaluable learning experience.

One of the highlights of my experience was participating in the weekly aortic meetings, during which the team discussed upcoming cases and treatment strategies. These discussions were highly educational and provided insights into decision-making processes and the complexities inherent in treating aortic pathologies. Despite the language barrier, Professor Haulon was consistently kind enough to summarize the cases in English and address any doubts at the conclusion of each discussion.

Additionally, the department is engaged in numerous investigational projects, and I was fortunate to be involved in one of these cases. I had the privilege of collaborating on an ongoing multicentric study involving centers from across Europe, which proved to be an enriching and educational experience.

Beyond the clinical and academic learning, I also had the pleasure of interacting with visiting surgeons and fellows from various countries, which enriched my understanding of global practices in vascular surgery.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Professor Stéphan Haulon and the entire Department of Vascular Surgery at Hôpital Marie Lannelongue for their mentorship and hospitality and highly

recommend all fellow trainees and surgeons alike to come visit this centre if they wish to deepen their knowledge in endovascular aortic surgery.

Lastly, I would like to thank the European Society for Vascular Surgery for granting me this remarkable opportunity. This experience has been profoundly educational and will undoubtedly influence my future practice in vascular surgery.

For any questions or further information about my stay, please feel free to contact me at [eduardodmgsilva@gmail.com](mailto:eduardodmgsilva@gmail.com).

Eduardo Silva, MD