

ESVS Educational Travel Grant Report - University Hospital of Bern, Switzerland - Özgür Çoban

My name is Özgür Çoban, and I am a final-year resident in Cardiovascular Surgery at the Adana City Training and Research Hospital, Turkey. I currently work in a high-volume tertiary care center, where we provide a wide range of treatments for various cardiovascular pathologies. Although I have gained significant experience at my home institution, I felt it would be beneficial to explore other advanced techniques and gain new perspectives in vascular surgery.

From the early years of my training, I developed a deep interest in managing complex aortic pathologies. In my center, I am actively involved in both open and endovascular procedures for aortic cases, including intricate ones, and I conduct research on post-endovascular aortic repair complications, particularly endoleaks.

In September 2024, I had the privilege to spend two weeks as an observer at the University Hospital of Bern in Switzerland, supported by the ESVS Travel Grant. Bern is internationally recognized as a center of excellence in the treatment of complex aortic and vascular conditions, known for its cutting-edge clinical and academic contributions.

Under the mentorship of esteemed professors and colleagues, I joined the daily routines of the vascular surgery team, gaining insight into comprehensive treatment planning and detailed techniques for managing complex aortic pathologies. Every case was reviewed step-by-step, focusing on graft options and alternative strategies.

I am excited to apply the knowledge and experience I gained in Bern to enhance my clinical practice. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the entire team for their invaluable guidance, stimulating discussions, and generous sharing of expertise. I am especially grateful to Prof. Dr. V.Makaloski, Prof. Dr. Kotelis and Dr. Becker who made this experience particularly meaningful.

In addition, Bern is as breathtaking as other Swiss cities; the surrounding nature offers a refreshing escape, even after a long day. The people are exceptionally warm and helpful, and the city's vibrant, multicultural ambiance provides ample opportunities to unwind and socialize, regardless of the duration of your stay.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the ESVS and Secretary General Prof. Maarit Venermo for granting me this opportunity to advance my knowledge and skills in such an inspiring setting.

I would be happy to answer any questions regarding my stay at the University Hospital of Bern. Feel free to contact me at [cobanozgur10@gmail.com].

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