

Post fellowship report
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Visiting centre:

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Dear Mr/Mrs, Dear Colleagues,

I would like to thank the SCTC for granting me with the Benedict Visiting Fellowships grant which helped me to visit Prof. Christopher Denton's department and laboratory (Royal Free, London, United Kingdom UK) early in 2022 to gain experience and discuss collaborations to perform a translational work entitled "Integrated proteomic analysis of blood B cells and skin fibroblasts in systemic sclerosis (SSc): toward proteomic B/F signatures of SSc patients."

Thanks to the Benedict Visiting Fellowships grant, I have been allowed to come for a 12-week visit at the Royal Free Hospital and support the cost of living in the United Kingdom. During the fellowship, I have learnt extensively from the scientific and technical laboratory training available in the laboratories and the Division of Medicine at University College of London. As for now, we have initiated an amazing translational collaborative work on B cell and fibroblasts proteomics that will go-on for the next months. Also, being able to observe the care of the Royal Free Scleroderma Service patients during my visit was also a direct consequence of the Benedict Visiting Fellowships grant, which enriched my knowledge on SSc.

At the moment, we are including patients from both the Paris Cochin University Internal Medicine (Prof. Mouthon) scleroderma cohort and from the Royal Free Scleroderma Service Cohort (Prof. Denton). Next steps of the work will be the pursuing of the inclusions of well-characterized scleroderma patients from Paris and London and the proteomic analysis on both historical and prospective unique samples of patients. I hope that at the end of this project, I will have the opportunity to submit cutting-edge communications in scleroderma conferences.

As a highly motivated French Young Internist MD-PhD with a strong interest in SSc, I am

very thankful for the Benedict Visiting Fellowships grant, which allows me to improve my clinical skills in SSc and perform high-quality translational research. I strongly believe that this fellowship is already helping me in my career and I am sure that it will lead to further collaborative translational research studies in the area of B cell and fibroblasts biology applied to SSc.

As a conclusion, the Benedict Visiting Fellowships grant has been of immense value to me as it has participated in giving me the incredible opportunity to work in an exceptional expert team in the SSc field, in gaining cutting edges translational lab knowledge, and in increasing my experimental scientific abilities in the field of fibrosis, and to be part of a fantastic network of European groups working on SSc.

Sincerely yours,

Benjamin Chaigne, MD-PhD