

Course Title : **USANZ Trainee Week 2010, Brisbane, Australia**

Submitted by : Dr Pawan Raj Chalise, MCh Resident (Urology)

Department/ : Urology Unit, Department of Surgery
Institution : Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, Kathmandu

Country : **Nepal**

Date : 21st November – 25th November 2010

A) Background

Urological Society of Australia and New Zealand (USANZ) organize every year a compulsory training programme for their SET trainees (SET 3 -5) for about a week. This year they also hosted trainees from Urological Association of Asia (UAA), European Association of Urology (EAU) and British Association of Urological Surgeons (BAUS), 2 from each section as a part of a reciprocal arrangement. I am one of the nominees from UAA to attend the trainee week at Brisbane and would like to express my thanks to UAA nominating me to participate in the programme.

B) Programme objectives

The programme objectives were as follows:

1. To participate USANZ trainee week at Brisbane as an UAA nominees
2. To observe the AUA trial Board exam as an observer.
3. To participate in clinical and non clinical sessions at USNAZ trainee week

C) Lessons learnt

This kind of exchange programme is highly beneficial and the trainee will get lot of opportunity to update his / her knowledge and skills. As an observer in AUA board examination, I felt that examiners just stick to basics and didn't go into the depth, which is the appropriate way to conduct exam. I even learnt much of the recent advances in urology and clinical epidemiology part during the trainee week.

D) Networking

Trainees from various international sections like, UAA, EAU and BAUS participated in the trainees week organised by USANZ at Brisbane. It helped me to establish a mutual understanding among the trainees from different part of the world. I got an opportunity to meet overseas fellows and learn about their training programme which obviously helps me back home. Social programmes help me to learn more about them and their culture as well.

E) Benefits

Numerous benefits were earned during the programme and I am mentioning few of them below:

1. Observe AUA examination process and took part as an observer which helps me to prepare my own exam.
2. Helped me to update recent advances and key research results in the various subspecialties of urology.
3. Helped me to increase my friends circle.
4. I, personally, took back home - a lot of information, knowledge and friends. This programme helped me to view urology in a broader sense and made me feel more responsible for urology education, service and research.
5. It helped to equalize the Urology trainee qualification throughout the different region of the world.
6. Finally, it provides me an opportunity to visit Brisbane, a beautiful city of Australia.

F) Recommendations

As an UAA participant to USANZ Trainee Week 2010, I would like to put few of my recommendations and they are-

1. This kind of reciprocal understanding between the international associations not only helps us to understand the subject matter but also provides an interactive session which gives a different dimension of urology; so I extremely recommend to continue it in the days to come.
2. I highly appreciate the concession provided by UAA in my economic air travel fare; it would be a great support if whole of the fare is sponsored by UAA, as most of the associations like EAU and BAUS are doing for their trainees.
3. We didn't get an opportunity to visit urology hospital or clinics at Brisbane; it would have been better if we had a clinical exposure or about a week observation in any of the hospital which would have provided us even the broad prospect of their training programme.
4. Participation of foreign trainee in their exam practice and interactive clinical sessions would definitely help the exam going trainee in the future.
5. This kind of training programme is highly recommended in our region too.

Dr Pawan Raj Chalise

MCh (Urology) Resident

TU Teaching Hospital

Kathmandu, Nepal

Cell: +977-9851067980

E mail: pawan_rc@yahoo.com