

I had the chance to visit Professor Horace Roman in the Tivoli Centre of Endometriosis in Bordeaux, France for 2 weeks in March 2022.

Professor Roman leads a fantastic team for the management of severe endometriosis in a multidisciplinary way. The volume of severe endometriosis surgery that he performs makes him one of the most experienced surgeons in the field. His team is very friendly and efficient. The coordination of the team is outstanding and that reduces the surgical time and increases theatre utilisation.

Professor Roman is very humble, friendly and polite and extremely didactic during his operating. I had the chance to assist him in a lot of operations of colorectal, urinary tract and sacral nerve root endometriosis. He is an outstanding surgeon, calm, methodical and keeps a clear plan during surgery. He explains everything that he does and gives evidence-based information for every step of his surgery and management plans. He is very open in discussing his outcomes, and complications when they happen.

I attended his outpatient clinic, and I had the chance to observe the way he conducts his consultation with patients with severe endometriosis. His approach is very evidence based; he goes through the imaging and explains in detail the treatment options. He outlines the surgical plan and the surgical complications in a simple and easy to understand way.

The postoperative care is excellent with clear pathways for appropriate investigations and action if a post-op complication is suspected.

I had the chance to meet other fellows visiting Professor Roman and that made my visit more social. We were all passionate with endometriosis and would constantly exchange ideas about the management of cases. It was very nice to share our experience and see how severe endometriosis is managed in different countries and compare this to the BSGE accredited endometriosis centres.

Even though the working day was long, I still had the chance to enjoy and explore the city of Bordeaux. The old town is very picturesque and vibrant with lots of people dining in the numerous bistros and brasseries.

It goes without saying that a visit to one of the nearby multiple Chateaux and vineyards is a must when visiting Bordeaux in order to appreciate the amazing wine that the area produces.

Overall, this fellowship was an excellent experience. In a very short period of time, I have learnt a lot and got a lot of ideas that I am planning to incorporate in my every day practice and bring to my department in Southampton University Hospital.

Mr Dimitrios Miligkos