Richard Hughes Travel Bursary May 2023

I am extremely grateful to the BPNS for their support towards my attendance at the Association of British Neurologists (ABN) meeting which was held in Belfast in May 2023.

I had the opportunity to present a poster titled "A unique patient with DNM2 related peripheral neuropathy and myopathy" describing a patient with a DNM2 missense variant (Thr488Arg) with a unique phenotype. Although both neuropathy and myopathy have been described with DNM2 variants, this was the first reported case of both neuropathy and myopathy in the same patient, which highlighted the importance of looking for myopathy in CMT patients with DNM2 variants both clinically and neurophysiologically.

The meeting was delivered through a mixture of plenary lectures, oral platforms and poster sessions. As a neuromuscular fellow, I particularly enjoyed the neuromuscular parallel session listening to my colleague, Dr Record, talk about whole genome sequencing in practice. It reiterated the importance of whole genome sequencing when investigating those with inherited neuropathies and the challenges that may arise as a result. The main highlight of the meeting was listening to my fantastic supervisor, Professor Mary Reilly, deliver the ABN Medal Award taking us through a wonderful journey in the Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) world. It highlighted importance of ongoing gene discovery and more importantly the development of outcome measures as we enter an era of clinical trials in CMT.

The conference was an excellent learning experience and a superb opportunity to meet many experts in the field. It was truly a pleasure to listen to all talks delivered from passionate experts. Attending the silent symposium was an excellent opportunity to learn about migraine prophylaxis. Last but not least, the CPC session was such a splendid way to finish the meeting, highlighting the approach of how neurologists should tackle challenging and complex cases.

As a Clinical Fellow, working toward a PhD, the opportunity to attend the ABN meeting was invaluable from an educational and research perspective. I am very grateful to the BPNS for their support and looking forward to future meetings