

SBNS Clinical Observership Report

Observer: Mr Taimoor Ali, Consultant Neurosurgeon

Institution: PAF Hospital, Islamabad, Pakistan

Host Institution: King's College Hospital, London,

UK Supervisor: Mr Bassel Zebian, Consultant Paediatric and Adult Neurosurgeon

Duration: Six Weeks(20th June-31st August 2026)

Funding Body: Society of British Neurological Surgeons (SBNS)

Upon completing a comprehensive six-week clinical observership at King's College Hospital in London, I would like to formally express my gratitude to the Society of British Neurological Surgeons (SBNS) for providing the funding that made this invaluable professional milestone possible. As a Consultant Neurosurgeon practicing at PAF Hospital Islamabad, Pakistan, this placement offered an exceptional opportunity to immerse myself within a premier global neurosurgical facility and observe cutting-edge clinical practices across paediatric neurosurgery, vascular neurosurgery, and neuro-endoscopy. My supervisor, Mr Bassel Zebian, proved to be an incredibly co-operative, supportive, and deeply academic mentor who was always ready to teach, share clinical insights, and guide me through complex case rationales. Under his exceptional guidance, I was able to closely observe advanced keyhole and minimally invasive paediatric surgeries, witnessing first-hand the highly sophisticated integration of intraoperative neuro-monitoring, advanced neuro-navigation frameworks, and stereotactic technologies. The exposure to these specialized sub-specialties, rigorous multidisciplinary clinical workflows, and state-of-the-art technological infrastructures has vastly expanded my clinical perspective. This experience will directly pave the way for sustainable future collaborations between King's College Hospital and my institution in Pakistan, creating a reliable pipeline for knowledge exchange. Furthermore, I am fully committed to implementing these sophisticated minimally invasive techniques, advanced neuro-navigation strategies, and strict intraoperative monitoring protocols at PAF Hospital Islamabad, significantly elevating the standard of neurosurgical and paediatric care delivered within the region. Furthermore, this tenure has successfully laid the groundwork for future professional collaboration, academic exchange, and shared knowledge-transfer pathways between the UK and Pakistani neurosurgical communities, maximizing the long-term impact of the SBNS grant.

Dr.Taimoor Ali