

I recently had the privilege of completing a highly rewarding six-week observership at King's College Hospital, London. My time at this prestigious institution was supervised by Mr. Irfan Malik, who specializes in minimally invasive and complex spine surgery.

Throughout the attachment, I regularly attended operating theatres, clinics, multidisciplinary team (MDT) meetings, and case discussions, which provided a comprehensive, holistic view of the department. Observing complex procedures performed with advanced techniques was immensely educational. Beyond the operative nuances themselves, witnessing the meticulous pre- and peri-operative planning and clinical decision-making was both refreshing and an invaluable learning experience.

In addition to spine surgery, I had the opportunity to observe theatres across other neurosurgical subspecialties, which significantly broadened my exposure. While this rotation substantially advanced my surgical knowledge, it also crucially oriented me to the inner workings and dynamics of an NHS Trust hospital—an enlightening experience in its own right.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Society of British Neurological Surgeons (SBNS) for selecting me for this award. My heartfelt thanks also go to Mr. Malik for his exceptional supervision and mentorship, and to the welcoming team at KCH for making my time so enriching and enjoyable.

Dr Adnan Salim
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