

BSDS Trainee Day Review – November 2017

Skin surgery is a rapidly expanding and fascinating subspecialty which is performed across most dermatological departments.

Having had one year of specialty training, and being surgically minded, I was eager to gain further experience and expand my skills.

I was particularly keen in attending the BSDS Trainee Day at the BAD House in London because it offered a combination of interesting talks on a wide selection of topics, and the opportunity to attend a reconstruction workshop.

The morning started with a thought provoking talk on dermoscopy, particularly focusing on pigmented lesions. Following that we had two talks focusing on surgical tips. Both were interactive and managed to keep everyone engaged, despite their level of surgical skills. The morning closed with a review of reconstruction techniques and a helpful overview of the Mohs fellowships which are available in the UK.

All the talks were stimulating and delivered by very enthusiastic speakers. In addition, during the breaks I was also able to meet and discuss with like-minded people.

After lunch we had a hands-on workshop on surgical reconstructions where we could practice and perfect the skills learned during the morning. The delegates were split in basic and advanced groups in order to make this relevant to trainees of all levels. Each group was tutored by an experienced surgeon who went through a step-wise approach to the best approach to each reconstruction.

The day finished with a talk that detailed both the surgical and histological aspects of Mohs surgery.

Overall, I felt that this was a very well organised and interesting course. It highlighted several different aspects relating to skin surgery. It has enabled me to build on my skills and motivated me to try improving even further.

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