Fellowship Training Opportunities in Facial plastic and reconstructive surgery through EAFPS

By Mr A D’Souza: Director and Chair of Education for EAFPS

Sub-speciality training in ENT is well established in all fields, except for facial plastic, reconstructive and cosmetic surgery and therefore training in this field has become more paramount.

Most UK facial plastic surgeons mainly perform Rhinoplasty, with an increasing number of ENT departments performing reconstructive, facial skin cancer surgery, and very few surgeons venturing into cosmetic facial plastic surgery. This is in contrast to the situation in the USA where rigorous fellowship training facilitates practice the full range of facial plastic surgical procedures including cosmetic facial surgery to give full exposure to trainees.

From a training perspective, the European Academy of Facial Plastic Surgery (EAFPS.org), an organisation with over 1000 members, primarily made up of ENT members, offers a complete range of training through one year fellowships, in centres across Europe, the UK as well as the USA, with board certification after completion of examinations in facial plastic surgery. Fellows are expected to submit a report after each period of fellowship.

The deadline for fellowship application is in December of each year, following which applicants are shortlisted based on certain criteria. The interview takes place in March of each year, and the successful candidates are expected to start the fellowship by the end of the interview year. EAFPS offers two or three funded fellowships of €16,000 per fellow, and a number of unfunded fellowships each year after EAFPS board ratification. The funded fellows may also be eligible for free access to the annual EAFPS, AAFPRS and other selected FPS meetings.

The fellows are encouraged to choose accredited training centres of their choice, depending on their training needs. Usually the fellowship committee expects the fellows to flexibly spend time in 3 different centres including one in the USA.

FPS UK encourages members to contact the EAFPS or visit the following websites for further information on training and practice of facial plastic surgery including fellowships.

www.EAFPS.org
www.iffpss.org
www.aafprs.org