

Grant	EAES Fellowship programme
Fellow	N. Warnaar from the United Kingdom
Host institution	Assuta Hospital, Tel Aviv, Israel
Director	Prof. Amir Szold
Daily routines Surgical/clinical/ research activities	Assisting in theatre 2-4 days per week. Two research projects almost finished, with 2 articles to be submitted to Surgical Endoscopy.
Experience	
Tasks	Assisting in theatre, and joining post-op ward rounds.
Involvement	Active involvement, however limited by language barrier.
Overall number & types of surgical procedures attended	Approximately 140 (85+55) procedures in 12 weeks with Prof Szold. (Slightly less in the second part because of SAGES and annual leave.) Main procedures: laparoscopic hernia repairs (inguinal, ventral, paraesophageal, incisional (eTAR)), cholecystectomies and open abdominal wall reconstructions. In addition, I have observed endoscopic thyroidectomies.
Number of surgeries performed by the fellow	None
Number of surgeries attended as the first assistant	All = 140
Number of surgeries attended as the second/third assistant	Total thyroidectomy with bilateral neck dissection
Number of surgeries attended as observer only (not scrubbed)	Endoscopic hemithyroidectomies = 5

Conclusion	<p>The experience has been great. To see a different health care system and its professionals is something that everybody should do every now and then. Also, instead of seeing a new technique performed once at a conference, assisting multiple times in various patients is much more beneficial as it will make it easier to replicate when back doing it yourself.</p> <p>In addition, it has given me space and time to reassess my practise, modify some techniques, focus on my future goals and initiate research projects. I have identified room for improvement in both logistical and technical fields in my department, which I hope to implement.</p> <p>As feedback to the Fellowship I would recommend offering this to all post-CCT surgeons, without the requirement of being 3 years post qualification, but I believe this has already been amended.</p> <p>Last but not least, I would like to thank the EAES and Prof. Szold very much for giving me this great opportunity and exceptional experience I will never forget!</p>
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