



## EVARISTUS SUNDAY CHUKWUDIKE, MD, UNIVERSITY OF CALABAR TEACHING HOSPITAL, NIGERIA TO BROWN UNIVERSITY RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL

By Evaristus Sunday Chukwudike, MD



At the endoscopy suite, Rhode Island Hospital. Being guided at the ENDOSIM center by my mentor, Dr. Akwi W Asombang.

I, Dr. Evaristus Sunday Chukwudike of the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital, Nigeria, write to express my profound gratitude to the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) for granting me the privilege to undergo an observership fellowship training for six months as a 2021 ACG International GI Training Grant recipient.

My training at the Brown University/ Rhode Island Hospital in Providence, United States, started on the 4th of January 2021. I was warmly welcomed by my training directors, Dr. Akwi W. Asombang and Dr. Steven F. Moss, and other staff who work at the Rhode Island Hospital endoscopy suite.

After that, my training mentors organized an orientation to enable me to acclimate to the environment and to understand the programs and facilities at the endoscopic suite. During the training, I participated in their general gastroenterology clinic consultations at the specialists' and fellows' clinics, esophageal motility clinic, *Clostridioides difficile* clinic, in-patient rounds, and endoscopic procedures. Endoscopic activities comprised basic and advanced procedures emphasizing pre-procedural, intra-procedural, and post-procedural consults. I participated in the following endoscopic procedures, namely; esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD), colonoscopy, endoscopic biopsies, endoscopic radiofrequency ablation and

cryoablation for Barrett's, endoscopic esophageal variceal ligation, endoscopic esophageal dilation (balloon and Savary), argon plasma coagulation of AVMs, hemostatic bipolar probe cauterization of bleeding vessels, foreign body retrieval, single balloon/spiral enteroscopy, mapping for intestinal metaplasia, insertion of a wireless catheter for ambulatory pH monitoring, capsule endoscopy, PEG tube insertion, polypectomy techniques for small and large polyps, clip and snare deployment, epinephrine injection, retrieval of large polyps with retrieval nets, deployment of hemo-spray, spyglass cholangioscopy, endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP), endoscopic ultrasound (EUS), and manometry.

I also participated in their weekly academic seminars and presented on the topic titled, "Overview of Gastroenterology Program in Nigeria." During my training, I presented my abstract at Digestive Disease Week 2022 titled, "*Helicobacter pylori* antimicrobial resistance and eradication rates in Africa: A systematic review."

The training offered me the opportunity to interact and network

with the international community of gastroenterologists, courtesy of my training directors' deliberate efforts. I especially thank the American College of Gastroenterology for the opportunity, and my training directors, Dr. Akwi W. Asombang and Dr. Steven F. Moss, for being amazingly supportive. My gratitude also goes to Dr. Rolf Carlson of Brown University. Thanks to Dr. Jean Roye, Dr. Habr Fadlallah, Dr. Sarah Hyder, Dr. Colleen Kelly, Dr. Amanda Pressman, Ablaye Gueye, and all other staff at the Endoscopy Suite of the Rhode Island Hospital.

My training ended on the 30th of June 2022 with a certificate of distinction award and a send-forth/get-together organized at the endoscopy suite of the Rhode Island Hospital.



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