

Experience report 1st NextGEN ENETS Scientific Workshop 2022

I had the honour of receiving a grant to attend the 1st NextGEN ENETS Scientific Workshop in Uppsala, Sweden. This well-organised workshop was spread out over two days. Hereunder, I will share my experience during this workshop and express my appraisal.

I graduated as a nuclear medicine physician in august of 2021 at University Hospitals, Leuven, Belgium, which is an ENETS Center of Excellence. Hereafter, I started my PhD candidacy including a research topic about the intra-individual comparison of ⁶⁸Ga-DOTATATE PET/CT vs PET/MRI, under supervision of Prof. Dr. Christophe Deroose. Due to my PhD topic and my specific interest in somatostatin receptor theranostics, I decided to apply for the 1st NextGEN ENETS Scientific Workshop.

This workshop had three distinct goals:

1. Critical evaluation of the research project

I presented the research work I did in the scope of my PhD during a 10-min presentation to my peers and the faculty. The faculty consisted of several experts in the NET-field. After the presentation, critical feedback was provided by the faculty and the peers. It was a very pleasant experience, given that the feedback was provided in a friendly and constructive manner. It was also very interesting to receive the opinions of researchers/physicians with diverse backgrounds. I will definitely implement several feedback points in the manuscript for publication.

2. Improvement of presentation techniques

I also presented my work in a 3-min science slam to peers, faculty and a professor with expertise in presentation techniques. The aim of the science slam was to develop skills in delivering the key message of a project in 3 minutes. Again, the feedback was given in a very friendly manner. More specifically, not only the weaknesses were highlighted but also a minimum of two strengths of the presentation. Again, I have learned techniques that I will use for the rest of my career.

3. Gain knowledge about the editor's view of submitted manuscripts

One of the faculty members, who has experience and expertise as an editor, gave an interesting lecture about the editor's view on submitted manuscripts. Due to this "behind the scenes" information, I have gained more insight about this topic, which will help me in future manuscript submissions.

Furthermore, it was very enjoyable to meet the other workshop attendees. The attendees had varying backgrounds: preclinical or clinical researchers and physicians. However, we all had the same interest in NETs, which ultimately created a bond. It was very inspiring to see the different perspectives for the same broad topic of NET. I found this to be the most special part about this workshop.

Last, but certainly not least, I want to mention that the workshop was very well-organised and in a great location. Also, all the interactions with the ENETS staff prior the workshop were very pleasant.

In conclusion, I would like thank ENETS for this valuable opportunity and I would definitely recommend this workshop to clinicians and researchers at the start of their career to gain experience in preparing and orally presenting a scientific research project in front of an expert panel.

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