



LEIBINGER AWARD REPORT

DATE	23.10.2024
MEMBER NAME	Chaim Ohayon
COUNTRY	Israel
POSITION	Oral and Maxillofacial specialist in Rambam Health Care Campus
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	
NAME OF AWARD (ie Hugo Obwegeser, Leibinger etc)	Leibinger Award
LOCATION/DATE OF VISIT	Oral and Maxillofacial department, Klinikum Rechts der Isar, Munich, Germany 1.10.23-30.09.24
NAME OF HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF UNIT VISITED	Prof. Klaus-Dietrich wolff
LOGBOOK - during visitation, if applicable (please add as addendum)	-----



SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE GAINED:

My interest in head and neck and microvascular reconstruction was sparked during my early years as a resident. I found the field to be fascinating, creative, and profoundly meaningful. During my residency, I attended flap-raising and microsurgery courses taught by Prof. Wolff, whose teaching methods and guidance deeply inspired me.

This clinical training at Klinikum Rechts der Isar represents a significant milestone in my career. From the very first week, I received a warm welcome from Prof. Wolff and his team, and I quickly felt integrated into the group. Through careful planning and progressive autonomy in clinical case management, I was able to deepen and refine my expertise in head and neck surgery and microsurgical reconstruction. This experience spanned from preoperative examination through surgical planning and postoperative follow-up, both during hospitalization in the ward and in the outpatient clinic.

During my stay this year, I had the opportunity to participate in two courses: the Stepwise Flap Raising Course led by Prof. Wolff and Prof. Hölzle, and the International Course for Microsurgery under Prof. Fichter and Dr. Ritchel, both senior consultants in Prof. Wolff's department. These courses significantly enhanced my microsurgical skills, beginning in a dedicated microsurgery lab owned by the department and then extending into the operating room.

Surgically, I participated in 120 reconstructive cases, including oncologic cases, osteoradionecrosis, MRONJ, and secondary reconstructions for various reasons. Prof. Wolff, along with his leading team members—Prof. Fichter, Dr. Nieberler, Dr. Ritschl, and Dr. Mohr—guided me in a progressively challenging manner. This approach helped build my confidence and ability to independently perform critical free flaps, such as the Radial Forearm, Anterolateral Thigh, Latissimus Dorsi, and Fibula free flaps. I also gained proficiency in performing neck dissections, preparing vessels for microsurgery, and mastering the specific and essential microsurgical techniques. I want to extend my deepest thanks to Prof. Fichter and Dr. Nieberler, who dedicated time and effort to teach me the principles and techniques essential to microsurgery procedures. Furthermore, during my training, I was exposed to advanced complex reconstruction cases and perforator flaps, which enhanced my knowledge and critical thinking.

Regarding Virtual Surgical Planning, the department houses a 3D Lab. Many of the bone reconstruction cases are planned virtually and printed in-house. This allowed me to familiarize myself with the department's workflow for Virtual Surgical Planning in reconstruction cases. I gained valuable experience in software resources that are crucial for performing Virtual Surgical Planning.

Scientifically, I had the pleasure of working with Prof. Wolff's outstanding team, who provided guidance and support. Together, we completed one article and initiated two ongoing clinical trials that are currently in progress.



	<p>OBJECTIVES FOLLOWING VISITATION:</p> <p>The main goals for the phase following this year of training are to maintain a focus on oral oncology and microvascular reconstruction, advancing the field in my country and contributing to the global field through innovative surgical techniques and high-quality clinical research. I aspire to lead and participate in clinical studies that explore new frontiers in oral oncology and advanced reconstructive techniques. I am confident that the experience I have gained at Klinikum Rechts der Isar will greatly enhance the precision and functionality of reconstructive cases in my home country.</p>
	<p>FEEDBACK</p> <p>I can confidently say that this experience has profoundly changed both my career and my life. The opportunity to learn at a center of excellence is rare, and this period was an incredible learning experience. I was able to fulfill all the objectives I set for my training and gained invaluable experience. Prof. Wolff and his team were exceptionally welcoming and supportive throughout the entire year. The entire OMFS Department embraced me almost from the beginning of my visit as part of their team. I consider myself extremely fortunate to have had Professor Wolff as a mentor. I strongly recommend and encourage choosing Klinikum Rechts der Isar in Munich, Germany, for exceptional training in head and neck and microvascular reconstruction.</p>

Chaim Ohayon

23.10.24

.....
Signature

.....
Date