

GILEAD EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIPS in collaboration with BHIVA

Exchange scholarships to Brazil 2014

Report from Ana Beatriz de M M Sampaio

As part of the Gilead Exchange Scholarships in collaboration with BHIVA 2014, I visited the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London, UK, from Monday 6 October to Wednesday 8 October 2014. The visit was organised by Dr Daniel Bradshaw.

This was a unique experience as I was able to visit the Hospital guided by Dr Bradshaw and was given an overview of the NHS with reference to HIV/AIDS care.

On Monday, after the welcome, I had the opportunity to follow the medical round for HIV inpatients and to follow consultations at the sexual health clinic at 56 Dean Street, Soho. The second day was spent at the HIV clinical trials unit at St Stephen's AIDS Trust, where I observed medical consultations and had a general explanation about the ongoing clinical trials. On Wednesday I observed consultations at the Kobler Clinic and was invited to participate in the virtual antiretroviral clinic.

At the end of the week I attended the two-day BHIVA Autumn Conference held at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, where I witnessed medical discussions on all relevant HIV/AIDS topics. I was also honoured to attend the BHIVA award ceremony where I was presented with my certificate.

This overall experience has been unique and has broadened my knowledge about HIV public health assistance and has enlarged my view of the challenges of working with HIV/AIDS. In addition, I now have a good grasp of the similarities and differences of the UK and Brazilian health systems.

My daily activities in Brazil will be positively influenced by this experience, bringing benefits to ongoing studies and medical activities. Finally, I am very proud and grateful to have been selected for this scholarship and I look forward to seeing this exchange contributing to future partnerships.