Medical Student’s experience at the World Conference of Interventional Oncology 2015 - Sohaib Virk

Earlier this year, I was awarded a Travel Fellowship to present my research findings at the 2015 Alzheimer’s Association International Conference in Washington. My research focused on epidemiological factors associated with Alzheimer’s disease, and was undertaken at the Whitely-Martin research center under the supervision of Associate Professor Guy Eslick. In my oral presentation, I presented the novel discovery of aluminum levels being elevated in individuals with Alzheimer’s disease, suggesting its role as an early marker of disease or pathogenic co-factor. I was also invited to deliver two poster presentations: one examined the link between occupational exposures and Alzheimer’s disease, and the other assessed the long-term risk of Alzheimer’s disease in patients taking aluminum-containing antacids. Overall, the conference was a wonderful experience, giving me an opportunity to discuss my ideas with some of the world’s foremost neurologists and neuroscientists, and providing me with a glimpse of some of the exciting and emerging technologies in the field of neurology. In between the academic discussions and presentations, I was also able to visit the Library of Congress, Washington Monument and other landmark sites, as well as see my very first game of baseball at Nationals Park.