

## **BSDS 41st Annual Surgery Workshop**

**31st March – 2nd April 2025, Newcastle University**

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I had a very positive experience attending the 41st annual surgery workshop organized by the British Society for Dermatological Surgery, held at the Newcastle University. The course was extremely well organized, and regular email correspondences were sent after registration, containing helpful details about the venue location, accommodation and transportation options. Online video tutorials as well as a workshop manual were also provided to us prior to the course, which were an excellent resource for pre-course preparation and a useful accompaniment during the course for reviewing procedures at any point.

The course consisted of comprehensive lectures delivered by expert doctors which covered theory about skin and nail anatomy, surgical techniques and surgical reconstruction. This was followed by hands-on practical sessions where we were first shown a mix of live demonstrations and videos outlining surgical procedures such as excisions, suture techniques and surgical flaps. Then, we had the opportunity to put our theoretical knowledge and surgical skills into practice on pig skin. During our practical sessions in the dissecting room, we were supervised by numerous faculty members, who were diligently assessing our surgical skills, giving constructive feedback and answering any of our queries. They also offered practical tips to further enhance our surgical techniques. We also had optional interactive workshops in the morning where we were presented with different case scenarios and discussed possible ways of surgical management and reconstruction with our faculty members in a small group setting.

Throughout the course, had ample break times for coffee, snacks and lunch which allowed us to get to know one another, visit the exhibition stands, and energize ourselves for the next section of the course.

On our second day, we had a lovely gala dinner at the County Hotel, where we enjoyed delicious cuisine, along with entertainment by the talented magician Mr Paul Lytton, who performed mesmerizing magic tricks that left everyone in awe. The wonderful atmosphere made for a fantastic evening.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who was involved in organizing a fantastic teaching experience. The blend of expert teaching, interactive learning and hands-on practice made this course a valuable investment in my professional development. I would highly recommend the BSDS annual surgery workshop to any healthcare professional looking to enhance their surgical skills.