

Firstly, I would like to thank the SRS for the bursary awarded to me that helped with the cost of attending RSNA 2017 in Chicago.

It was my first time attending the RSNA meeting, which is arguably the most well known radiological conference in the world. This year they boasted 52,000 attendees over the 5 day conference.

It was an eye opening experience for me and also quite overwhelming. Every year, the conference takes place at McCormick Place which is a short drive away from Chicago's downtown. To help attendees with the commute, transfer buses were organised all over the city center, running almost round the clock. Daily newspapers were distributed, highlighting the previous day's highlights and upcoming events and talks. A mobile app was even specially designed for attendees, allowing organisation of each day through their calendar and to view interesting exhibitions or lectures.

For trainees, RSNA must be the best conference to attend. Firstly the registration fees are waived for all trainees, as long as you are a RSNA member, which is free for trainees anyway. Secondly, throughout the entire conference, there were daily lectures that were pitched for radiology trainees at every training stage- from the very basics of anatomy to more niche research focused topics. A memorable session included the interactive lectures where interesting cases were given and audience member could interactively choose the right diagnosis through the mobile app. There was a live scoreboard so there was an element of friendly competition between audience members.

Other interesting educational feature was the case of the day- every day, a series of cases from different subspecialties were uploaded into their website and attendees are encouraged to input their diagnosis. The answers were revealed the next day with an explanation of the imaging findings and reasons behind the final diagnosis. It was certainly an engaging way to learn about odd presentations of common diseases and also presentations of rare diseases.

Finally, there were many social activities organised for trainees throughout the conference duration. Lunch was provided for free everyday at the trainee lounge. There is free flowing coffee and soft drinks throughout the day. There was also a social meet and greet for all trainees organised at the beginning of the conference to encourage networking.

My oral presentation was looking at the change of case load, case mix and 30 day mortality data between 2009 and 2014 for out-of-hour endovascular haemorrhage control procedures within Scotland. We found that there was a large increase in the total number of procedures done with an increase in procedures performed for primarily lower GI haemorrhage and a large drop in procedures performed for post partum haemorrhage. Surprisingly there was an increase in 30 day mortality but also an increase in the median age of patients we were treating.

All in all, I think RSNA is a conference every radiology registrar should attend at least once as it provides such great learning and networking opportunities, condensed into 5 days. Chicago is also a great city to visit and offers many attractions for first time visitors.

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