

British Paediatric Otolaryngology Course – Report

I had the great honor of receiving the European Society of Paediatric Otorhinolaryngology Junior Member's Bursary 2025, which gave me the opportunity to attend this year's British Paediatric Otolaryngology Course in London. For two days, I had the privilege of participating in a well-structured, insightful, and highly educational experience covering key areas of paediatric ENT.

The course began with *Otology*, where we explored both objective and subjective hearing tests in children, including behavioural testing, which introduced valuable concepts. The discussions also covered gene therapy, chronic otitis media, microtia surgery and many other topics. The paediatric vertigo presentation was particularly engaging, addressing diagnostic investigations and key red flags for central causes—all delivered in a structured and well-illustrated manner.

The *Paediatric ENT Emergencies* session was especially impactful, featuring real-life surgical recordings that emphasized the importance of preoperative planning and a clear step-by-step approach—an invaluable lesson for a young doctor like myself. Later, in the *Rhinology* session, we explored nasal obstructions, from congenital blockages to septal and turbinate surgery, with a particularly insightful discussion on nasal dermoids, covering both clinical assessment and management in great detail.

The second day began with the *Head and Neck* session, covering some of the most challenging aspects of paediatric ENT pathology. We explored branchial anomalies and thyroglossal ducts— their differential diagnoses and strategies to prevent recurrences. A standout session for me was on lymphovascular malformations, where we reviewed before-and-after treatment cases, making the topic both practical and engaging.

The *Airway/Head & Neck* discussions brought fascinating insights into failed extubation, post- intubation injury, vocal cord immobility, and the CHAOS and EXIT procedure— a session that truly highlighted the rapid evolution of medical advancements. Following this, the *Airway* session provided further valuable discussions on topics like tracheoesophageal fistulas, tracheomalacia, and laryngomalacia, including the latest theories on their pathophysiology, key endoscopic findings and various treatment approaches.

The course concluded with General ENT, addressing drooling in children, its management strategies and a discussion on the pros and cons of different treatments, including surgical options. We also reviewed periorbital cellulitis, neck masses and received important updates in tonsillectomy techniques.

I am incredibly grateful to Dr. Ravi Thevasagayam, whose kindness and support made me feel truly welcome throughout the course. My sincere appreciation also goes to the organizers for putting together such an outstanding event. I truly appreciate the presence of international speakers, whose expertise and insights enriched the discussions and provided a broader, more

comprehensive perspective. Everything was organized at the highest level, making this an unforgettable and exceptional learning opportunity. I had the chance to connect with colleagues, exchange ideas and gain invaluable knowledge.

This course was truly exceptional and I would highly recommend it to all my colleagues. The combination of practical insights and expert-led discussions makes it an essential event for any trainee in paediatric ENT.

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