

**Australian and New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion  
South East Asia, Pacific Islands Travel Awards**

**TRAVEL AWARD RECIPIENT REPORT**

Location of Meeting: Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Dates of Meeting: 20-23 Oct 2019

Travel Award Recipient Name: Josefina Florentina Oqui

Background of Recipient: East Timor, I am a Medical Scientist, I am also the head of multidiscipline in laboratory and I am representing Hospital Referral Oe-cusse (HRO)

Educational activities at the meeting:

1. Oral Presentations (*Briefly describe some of the oral presentations, which were most beneficial to you. Perhaps explain why they were relevant to you or how the knowledge can be applied in your work situation*).

(Clinical practice improvement can reduce anaemia during pregnancy) – This oral presentation was the most beneficial for me as this is mainly the issue that occurs in the laboratory that I am employed in. The reason why this is relevant is because most pregnant women, after and before delivery their red blood cells drops. They required red blood cells transfusion. There are two tests to identify the reduction of the red blood cells, which are using haematology analyser and blood smear. However, there is no ferritin-screening test. This is because the reagent is very expensive, but I would like to recommend to the hospital to buy. From the oral presentation I have learned that the clinical practice improvement (CPI) is the only tools that had a clinically relevant to modify one risk factor of blood loss and subsequent transfusion in the perinatal period, as it was mentioned in oral presentation. With this tool, it is very useful knowledge to me, which I can impart to my colleagues in my work place. I would suggest this tools to use it in the laboratory.

2. Poster Presentations (*Briefly describe some of the posters, which were most beneficial to you. Perhaps explain why they were relevant to you or how the knowledge can be applied in your work situation*)

(Evaluating five years of pre-transfusion patient and blood component identification observational audits: what have we learn)- This poster was beneficial for me as it taught me about how important evaluation of pre-transfusion patient and using audit tools to identify blood component in five years period. This is useful information for me because sometimes we did mistakenly transfuse blood to the wrong patient, which is life-threatening risk. In this study I would like to use it to definitely apply it in my work place to prevent administration errors.

3. New Technology / Trade exhibition (*Briefly describe any demonstrations, lectures or equipment that may be relevant for your institution, and/or scientific developments that appeal to you*)

The ORTHO AUTOVUE INNOVA system is an automated immunohematology testing system used for blood typing, antibody screening and compatibility testing. – This recent advance machine in blood banking is used gel technology for apheresis, automation at various levels. The advantages of this automation machine are to improve sensitivity and specificity. It is also easy to use and simple to read and it is reliable, reproducible results and minimal training required. However, this machine is very expensive to buy. I would recommend this machine to the hospital to buy. Because it is very useful for blood banking to have this machine, in order to make life more easier. As the advantages outweigh the disadvantages.

4. Information / knowledge gained from attending the meeting (*Describe how the information/knowledge gained will impact your future practice*)

The conference was very important for networking with people from different countries. It also enhances my professional and personal development. This is helping me to do my job even better and taught me how to find solutions to problems. This meeting is also gained my knowledge not only in my field but also other filed.

5. Overall experience (*Value or benefit from attending the meeting. Tell us about your experience, other events, or lectures in other streams, activities, social and new contacts.*)

This meeting was a great opportunity to meet people from different countries and with same field. This can help me to make new relationships and strengthened existing one. This meeting is also helping me to make connection with the researcher from different countries that presented their latest research. It is also enhance my knowledge in communication and presentation skills. I also got the knowledge from lots of very interesting presentation and at the end I got a certificate, which I would add to my resume. I got a chance in visiting new place and have lots of fun. I went to visit the Australian Red Cross for two hours. Then I went to Fiona Stanley Hospital. This hospital visiting was very beneficial because I was spending hours observing the huge laboratory that I have never seen before. In this visiting tour, I observed and learned lots of things that I would not have it in my laboratory. All of these tests, advance automation analyser and equipment, I wish I could have it in laboratory that I work in. I was thinking in my mine that my country is really further behind with all of these advance machine automation. With all of these, it encourages me to do more study in my field in order to develop the laboratory that I work in. I definitely will recommend the institution to buy those equipments. But first the lab technician need to be trained and educated them to be able to use these machines.

Comments and feedback

From the bottom of my heart I would like to give my appreciation to all the supporters from ANZSBT that I finally attend this very important meeting. This meeting from the beginning to the end were fantastic. I do not forget to thank Anne Wiseman for you help and support before, during and after the meeting. Once again thank you very much. I only have one comment on the travel award, this about the visa and health check. For the next travel award, if you could please support with with these as well. The reason is some people they cannot afford to pay for the visa and health check.

Thank you very much for giving me this award.

Information: your reports will be submitted to ANZSBT and ISBT Councils. Extracts may be included on the Societies websites and in electronic newsletters. The feedback from your experience is valued and may assist in continued funding of travel awards.