

La Plata Training Center - WGO Info Package

Location: La Plata, Argentina

Center Co-Directors:

Dr. Néstor Chopita Dr Juan Carlos Gomez Dr. Néstor Landoni

Introduction:

Training at the La Plata Center began in 1990 and the center was inaugurated as a WGO Training Center on March 21, 2007. Since its founding the La Plata Training Center has received more than 400 scholars, most from the Latin American region.



Aims / Goals:

Training in endoscopy and endoscopic surgery.

Facilities:

The La Plata Training Center is located in the Gral. San Martín Hospital, a referral hospital situated in the Province of Buenos Aires (population 15 million). The hospital has 500 beds and all clinical and surgical specialties. The Gastroenterology Services (30 doctors) include the Department of Endoscopy, Department of Hepatology, Department of Motility, and an Endoscopic Emergency Ward (24 hours). Five hundred endoscopic procedures are performed monthly, 60% of which are therapeutic.



The Unit of Nutritional Support and Malabsorbtive Diseases has been recently integrated into the center and is beginning its academic activities in 2009 with an E-Learning course on Nutrition.

Teaching Facilities:

- Maximum number of trainees that can participate per training period: one
- Number of courses which could held per year, given that proper funding were available: six
- Months in which courses could be organized: January-June. July-December
- Number of trainees / faculty for which accommodations are available: The center has no accommodation. It is provided by the endoscopy company.

Faculty and Staff:

- 6 Staff Doctors
- 7 Endoscopic Emergency Doctors (24 hours)
- 12 Fellows
- 15 Nurses

Equipment and Procedures

Please see the attached entitled "La Plata Equipment" for an overview of the center's current equipment as well as the number of procedures performed yearly.

Areas of Training:

- Diagnostic upper endoscopy, colonoscopy, enteroscopy, ERCP and pancreatoscopy.
- Upper endoscopic surgery, sclerotherapy, banding ligation, dilation, stent placement, argon-beam, polypectomy, EMR, clips, diagnostic and interventional EUS
- Colonic endoscopic surgery, EMR, dyeing colorant, dilation and stent placement
- Endoscopic surgery of the bile ducts and pancreas: EPT, placement of stent, mechanical lithotripsy, cholangiography, mother and baby
- Therapeutic endoscopy



Training/Courses Offered:

Six scholarships are offered per year for training in basic therapeutic endoscopy and ERCP.

Duration: 6 months to 1 year.

2 Day Hands-on Course in Therapeutic Endoscopy (porcine models) - Held twice annually

Dates: May 23 – 24, 2009

Dates: November 26 – 27

Regulatory Requirements:

- Personal work insurance

Certifications:

The certification is issued by the School of Medicine, La Plata University

Trainee Application Process:

- Gastroenterologists or digestive surgeons with experience in endoscopy
- Introductory letter written by Director of trainee's home institution, applying for scholarship
- Trainee Information
 - Name and surname
 - Country and city of origin
 - Specialty
 - Place of work
 - Type of training sought
 - Detailed curriculum vitae

Further Academic Activities:

- Additional 2 day hands-on course in therapeutic endoscopy at the Argentine National Congress
- E-Learning Course - Nutrition

Endorsements:

The La Plata Training Center has been endorsed by

- the World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO)



Funding / Sponsorship:

Funding and sponsorship is currently received from the following sources:

- World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO)
- Olympus

Philanthropic Endeavours:

Our hospital belongs to the Province of Buenos Aires and all the services provided are free of charge for the patients.

Site-Seeing Experiences

1. Moreno Square, with the gothic cathedral next to it.
2. The children Republic, a replica of real buildings in small size.
3. The Woods, where the Museum of Natural science and the zoo can be visited. As Well as the lake and the open theatre.
4. The Ciudad de La Plata Stadium where important football matches and shows can be seen.
5. The capital city of the country Buenos Aires can be reached in 50 minutes by motorway

La Plata Training Center Scholarship Amount:

**USD 16,500
for 6 Month Training Period**