



## **Barcelona Trip Report**

Training in the diagnosis and treatment of retinoblastoma

Took place from June 11 to July 17, 2022, a training in early diagnosis and treatment of Retinoblastoma at the Retina Sector, Department of Ophthalmology, Hospital Sant Joan de Deus in Barcelona, Spain. The training was guided by Dr Jaume Catalá, Ophthalmologist, according to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Central Hospital of Maputo, Hospital Sant Joan de Deus and the World Association for the Fight against Cancer.

The training consisted of observation of patients with retinal pathology including Retinoblastoma in the outpatient, operating room and complementary diagnostic exams room.

I had the opportunity to learn how to use the Indirect Ophthalmoscope to follow up on cases of patients with retinoblastoma and to classify the tumor stage.

In the operating room, I followed up patients with retinoblastoma, observing active and non-active cases. I observed how the transpupillary laser, brachiotherapy, intravitreal injection is performed and had the opportunity to follow a session of intraarterial chemotherapy. I also had the opportunity to participate in the joint retinoblastoma case discussion committee that is held once a month.

I've also seen patients heal from retinoblastoma after several sessions of treatment, and that was very encouraging, knowing that it is possible to cure retinoblastoma.

The training was excellent and inspiring however, I thought that the training duration was short, because I would like to have the opportunity to personally do laser therapy.

After training I'm confident of being able to set up an early diagnosis program for retinoblastoma in the country in order to provide the opportunity for healing and prolonging the survival of patients.

I want to thank the World Association for the Fight against Cancer (AMCC) and the Hospital Sant Joan de Deus for the opportunity of this training and perhaps continuation of it later to consolidate the training. I would also like to thank Dr Jaume for the follow-up, support and teaching.



fig 1: Mariamo during Indirect Ophthalmoscope operating room



Fig 2- Mariamo and Dr Jauma Catalá

By Mariamo Abdala Mbofana

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