

## **Matt C DAGGETT - USA**

### **Fellowship from September to December 2014**

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When I finalized my plans to do a shoulder fellowship in Lyon, I knew it would be a great experience, but I didn't know it would be the best experience of my career. I learned so much about the shoulder and gained fresh perspectives on the treatment of internal impingement, instability, rotator cuff disease and arthritis. I was fortunate to participate in interesting research. I also participated in a plethora of difficult surgery, gained experience in procedures such as Latarjet, and learned tips and tricks both in the clinic and operating room. It was truly a complete experience.

For me, the number and variety of cases was perfect. I was in surgery 3-4 times a week with 8-9 cases a day. During surgery I participated in every type of procedure imaginable in the shoulder joint, from rotator cuff repair to revision reverse total shoulder with iliac graft and lat+t.major transfer. I was able to participate in numerous Latarjets and also just as importantly learned how to manage the post-operative rehab and any potential complication. I learned so many helpful tips in the operating room and I know this experience will be instrumental in the care of my patients.

What really makes the experience at Santy so valuable is the people. Most of my time was spent with Dr. Gilles Walch, Dr. Lionel Neyton and Dr. Bertrand Sonnery-Cottet. These individuals are incredible surgeons and even better people. All three of these surgeons took a lot of time out of their busy schedules to teach, answer questions, or debate a topic. They instill an environment of continued learning and exemplify what it means to be a physician and teacher.

Dr. Walch might be the most accomplished orthopedic surgeon in the world and is one of the nicest, most generous human beings I have ever met. He answers questions with patience and treats people like family. He is just an all-around fantastic person.



Dr. Neyton is an incredible guy as well. He is really pushing the limits of arthroscopic shoulder surgery and was an absolute pleasure to work with. I learned many new tips and tricks from him that I will use everyday in my practice.

Given my interest in lower limb injuries, I was also able to spend a lot of time with Dr. Bertrand Sonnery-Cottet. He is innovative and brilliant, a true pioneer in ACL and ALL surgery.



I was also fortunate to meet some phenomenal surgeons from other countries as well. I worked closely with a brilliant orthopedic surgeon from Germany named Birgit, two fantastic surgeons from Brazil, Luis and Barbara, and a young French surgeon Marc-Olivier. Additionally, I met many other visitors from all over the world representing roughly 20 different countries. It was really great forging new friendships with these wonderful people and also learning new perspectives as they shared their experience.



***In summary, I learned so much during my time here. The fellowship was a true life-changing experience, one that I will cherish forever.***