

## Report of the short-term visit

### ERN Exchange Programme 2021-2022

### ERN ReCONNET

Name of the participant	Augusto José Serra Gaspar da Silva
Healthcare provider where the participant is employed	Hospital de Santa Maria
Name of the Healthcare provider and <b>Head of the Unit</b> hosting the exchange visit Address Name of the Head of the Unit	Av. Prof. Egas Moniz MB, 1649-028 Lisboa Professor Dr. João Eurico Fonseca
Start date of the exchange visit	23.01.2023
End date of the exchange visit	27.01.2023

**1. Please introduce your position/employment (MD, HAP, patient, other) and years of practice of your profession:**

MD, 3 years of practice.

**2. The objectives of the exchange visit were:**

Know how the hospital operates and how professionals from the rheumatology service interact with other specialties in the treatment of patients with connective tissue diseases

**1. Please describe the activities performed during your exchange visit:**

During the program, we spoke with the various specialists (rheumatology and from other specialties) devoted to the various connective tissue diseases and attended multidisciplinary patient discussions.

**3. Please describe below what you have learned and which new information/novelties you got during the exchange visit:**

I got two very important aspects that I will suggest for our department: creation of the bi-disciplinary consultation Rheumatology-Gastroenterology so that patients with pathologies from these areas can be discussed together, at least monthly. I considered it very important that all specialists of your department were integrated in research projects. I will also suggest that all rheumatologists in our department may have a period dedicated to research, so that everyone can effectively carry it out and can help residents in research projects.

**4. Please describe below how you plan to implement what you have learned in your Healthcare provider/clinic/practice:**

During the weekly service meeting, I will propose the 2 suggestions that I mentioned in the previous question since they are very important aspects and should be implemented in a centre like Santa Maria Hospital.



**5. Would you visit in the future the same center or another ERN centre for update/new topics?**

Although I really enjoyed visiting the Amsterdam UMC, if I have the possibility of doing another program like this one, I intend to visit another centre to know its reality and what is innovative about it that I can take back to the service where I work.

**6. Would you recommend the Exchange Programme to your colleagues? If yes, why?**

I highly recommend this type of program since, by knowing the reality of other centres, you get an idea of what you can implement or improve, even if you think that everything works fine in your department.