

## **TRAINING BURSARY PROGRAMME 2025 - Ornela Gelaj**

### **Final Report**

The training provided an exceptional opportunity to advance my clinical, academic, and research competencies in the management of systemic lupus erythematosus. In particular, the program enhanced my diagnostic accuracy through advanced training in immunological markers, imaging modalities, and interdisciplinary clinical evaluation. These skills have significantly strengthened my ability to assess complex SLE cases and make informed, evidence-based diagnostic decisions.

Additionally, the program allowed me to refine therapeutic strategies, including the judicious use of biologic agents, immunomodulatory therapies, and personalized medicine approaches tailored to individual patient profiles. Exposure to these advanced treatment modalities has increased my confidence in implementing patient-centered, evidence-based care.

The training also contributed to the development of my research skills, particularly in clinical trial methodology, outcome measurement, and the interpretation of real-world evidence in lupus care. These competencies will support my ongoing and future contributions to research, quality improvement, and guideline development in this field.

Furthermore, the program facilitated meaningful engagement with global experts, offering opportunities to learn from international best practices and actively contribute to discussions that inform the evolution of clinical guidelines in SLE management.

The bursary support provided by the European Lupus Society was instrumental in enabling my full participation in this intensive program. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity, and I anticipate that the knowledge and experience gained will have a lasting impact on my clinical practice, research activities, and professional development.

Sincerely,

Ornela Gelaj