I want to thank ESSO for giving me the opportunity to participate in the ECCO/ESMO/AACR/EORTC MCCR 2016 by supporting me with a fellowship grant.

The application for the workshop was highly competitive and only 80 international young scientists were given the opportunity to participate and develop their submitted protocol in clinical cancer research. Since the workshop was organized by four worldwide leading oncology societies, the faculty consisted of highly respected leading oncologists of all disciplines and the daily lectures were on a very high scientific level. Within these lectures, participants were able to gain and improve their knowledge in clinical cancer research in a very interactive way with stimulating discussions. In small group discussion sessions, we were able to discuss and further develop our specific protocol with extensive review from the faculty.

Within this interesting week, I was able to completely finish my protocol, “A phase I/II study evaluating safety of macroscopic complete resection after neoadjuvant chemotherapy with cisplatin, pemetrexed and bevacizumab in malignant pleural mesothelioma (MPM)”, with the help of international experts on this topic. I am now able to apply for financial support of the study and to start this trial at my institution as soon as possible.

Furthermore, due to the interactive character of the workshop, I was able to communicate with other young investigators in the field of oncology and also to meet new friends.

I highly recommend young investigators in the field of surgical oncology to apply for this workshop, as it will be a major step in their career.