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Centers of Excellence 2020 Virtual Summit:
State-of-the-Art Lymphatic Medicine

OCTOBER 2 & 3 • 8:15 AM–1:00 PM PDT (11:15 AM–4 PM EDT) Each Day



This valuable symposium was attended by three of the Executive and our newest volunteer Ali Ghafoor, a 4th yr. science student hoping to study medicine

Overview of the Symposium: The 16 (30) min. sessions spread over 2 days were presented from a variety of **LE&RN Centres of Excellence** mainly in the US including sessions from: Boston, Houston, Stanford, New York, Chicago, Seattle, Columbus plus overseas from London, Derby, Montpellier France & NSW Australia. The content was at the level of Health Care Professionals, showing graphic images of LE patients and surgical processes. We heard about the latest research studies for potential medicine to reduce edema, several diagnostic imaging techniques for assessment, surgery and to provide a plan for conservative treatment with MLD. Explanations of the three current surgical techniques and appropriate selection of each for individual patients' Large portions of Saturday were devoted to Primary Lymphedema especially in infants and children, including topics on genetics, fetal development a classification algorithm to assist with making an accurate diagnosis of Primary LE and related health problems, which assists Drs in early diagnosis and corrective surgery for related health problems affecting the development of Primary lymphedema in young children.

Although intense & often above our level of full understanding, we each found it a valuable opportunity to learn about the treatments currently available and optimism for the future care of Lymphedema. I just hope that a University Hospital in Canada, maybe even our own VGH /UBC Lymphedema program, will achieve designating as a 'Centre of Excellence ' in the near future.