

Internship Report at Hospital Clínic de Barcelona

My name is Carolina Alfaro González, a neurology specialist, graduated from the University of Buenos Aires, currently residing in the city of Popayán, Cauca Department, Colombia. In my daily practice as a neurologist, I face the issue of Stroke, where delayed consultations hinder the application of acute reperfusion therapies, which motivated me to participate in this observership.

Experience during the Internship:

I sincerely thank the European Stroke Organisation for providing me with the opportunity to undertake this internship at Hospital Clínic de Barcelona. Under the guidance of Dr. Salvatore Rudilosso, who was highly professional and dedicated, I had the privilege of actively participating in the Stroke Code management and acute reperfusion treatments under Interventional Neuroradiology and Vascular Neurology. The warmth and professionalism shown by the department heads, attendings, residents, and fellows significantly contributed to my experience, making me feel at home during my stay.

Public Healthcare System:

I highlight the excellent organization and coordination between prehospital services and the Vascular Neurology team at Hospital Clínic. This efficiency in care allows for prompt and timely intervention in patients, which motivates me to work towards implementing similar protocols in Colombia.

Acknowledgments:

This internship at Hospital Clínic de Barcelona has been a transformative experience that strengthened my skills and knowledge in Stroke management. I once again thank the European Stroke Organisation for making this invaluable opportunity possible.

Upon returning to Popayán, in the Cauca Department, Colombia, I am eager to implement what I have learned. Addressing the challenge of delayed stroke care, I strongly advocate for the implementation of prehospital protocols, including pre-notification to healthcare centers. This proactive approach is crucial in addressing the issue effectively. I am dedicated to applying the best practices observed in Barcelona to enhance emergency neurological care in my city.

Sincerely,

Dr. Carolina Alfaro González
Neurology Specialist
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Attached are photographs documenting my participation and experiences during my internship at Hospital Clínic de Barcelona.





With the team of technicians and paramedics dedicated to the care of patients with symptoms of stroke, and the transfer to the hospital with Stroke Code activation.



Stroke unit with vascular neurology specialists, neurology residents, and rotations from other nationalities.



Interventional neuroradiology unit, acute reperfusion treatment in a patient with a stroke within the therapeutic window.