

ISPAD/JDRF Research Fellowship
2nd Report
Salwa Baki

Title of the research project: Evaluation of corneal endothelial cells in type 1 diabetic patients as an early marker of endothelial dysfunction.

Location: Pediatric Diabetology Regional Service, Chieti, Italy

Direct supervisors:

Pediatric Diabetology Team: Dr Stefano Tumini

Ophthalmology Department: Pr Mastropasqua, Dr. Nubile, Dr. Lanzini, Dr. Erroi

Process of study:

- Local Ethical Committee approval process completed
- Recruitment of type 1 diabetic patients that respond to the study criteria from the daily out clinics after patients or parents' approval
- Ophthalmic examinations organized twice a week:
 - Standard Ophthalmic examination
 - Schirmer test/ Esthesiometry
 - Non mydriatic fundus
 - Specular microscopy
 - Confocal microscopy
 - OCT of the anterior chamber for a subset of the patients

Developments:

- 76 type 1 diabetic patients were recruited so far
- The recruitment of patients was stopped the beginning of March because of the COVID situation
- Collection of clinical data and ophthalmic examinations results for the sample of patients recruited completed