



### **Training Center Spotlight: Addis Ababa**

Dr. Zelalem Mulu

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Dr. Wudassie Melak

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The WGO Training Center In Addis Ababa, located at the Tikur Anbessa (Black Lion) Specialized Hospital (TASH), has been training fellows in both diagnostic and therapeutic Upper GI endoscopy and colonoscopy. Two fellows, namely Dr. Wudassie Melak and Dr. Zelalem Mulu, have been trained for the past year.

We, the trainees, were practicing as internists from the countryside of Ethiopia and with the hope of delivering the service to the local community in the regions. We joined the training program in 2021. Our stay was fruitful, and we were very happy with the training and were greatly satisfied with the knowledge and skill we shared from the senior staff and trainers.



Senior staff Of Tikur Anbessa Specialized Hospital (TASH)



Fellows currently training at TASH

Prof. Mark Topazian was constantly helping us with our training by discussing selected clinical cases, and with endoscopic procedures and even providing endoscopic supplies and accessories (particularly Esophageal Variceal Ligation bands).

Dr. Amir Sultan, Director of the Addis Ababa Training Center, along with the rest of senior staff have been with us during our training with great support in clinical case discussions and diagnostic/therapeutic endoscopic procedures as well as in training us on Diagnostic Ultrasound Imaging during our stay here.

There are four new trainees at the unit: Three adult and one pediatric gastroenterology/hepatology fellows. We have regular meetings, seminar presentations, and monthly fellow journal presentations. We are also involved in general GI clinic & ward activities. We do regular endoscopic and colonoscopic procedures with our trainers from Tuesday to Thursday (three times per week) and emergency procedures are done throughout the week.

All trainees are also involved in research activities. The data collection is ongoing. The study titles that are being done currently include:

1. *Prevalence, pattern, and risk factors of MAFLD/NAFLD in IBD patients having follow up at GI clinic of Tikur Anbessa Specialized Hospital, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.*
2. *The predictive value of alarm symptoms and signs for significant endoscopic findings and upper GI malignancy: an institution based cross-sectional study in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.*

Finally, we greatly thank WGO for the unreserved great support during our successful stay and the follow up of our clinical and endoscopic activities at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.