



EPA VIRTUAL GAINING EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME REPORT

I am writing this report to express my assessment of the EPA Virtual Gaining Experience Program that I started at King's College London in August 2021 under the supervision of dear Mariana Pinto da Costa. First of all, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to take part in this program. I was welcome by my supervisor, Mariana Pinto da Costa in the program, which was conducted virtually due to the pandemic, and I must say that I am very grateful to her for her guidance. My purpose in participating in the program was to observe the practical applications of psychiatry in other cultures and, if possible, to take part in a research project. It was a very enlightening experience to listen to the presentations of my colleagues working in the field of mental health at the meetings held every 2 weeks. In addition, we conducted a study with Mariana Pinto da Costa in which we investigated the qualitative and quantitative characteristics of the psychotherapy training of early career psychiatrists in Turkey, and we plan to publish it soon. In these aspects, I can say that the program met my expectations well and my supervisor was very helpful. Since the program was virtual, I had to continue my current job and fulfil some of my professional obligations, especially during the pandemic period. Because of this, I personally encountered situations that were out of my control, such as being unable to attend some meetings or delaying my obligations, and in this respect, I am grateful to my supervisor and other colleagues in the program for their understanding. I am also sorry that I did not have the opportunity to observe the management of the patients at real hospital setting or to have the opportunity to converse and share experiences with my colleagues face to face. Despite all these difficulties, it was a useful and satisfying experience for me and I am very grateful.

Sincerely,

Hatice Kaya, MD.