

Associate Professor Kuljit Singh is a BHI Alumni who is currently working at the Gold Coast University Hospital in Queensland as an academic cardiologist and an Associate Professor of Medicine at Griffith University.

1. When were you based at the BHI?

2011 to 2014

2. What were you doing then?

As a PhD student I was a part of the Takotsubo Cardiomyopathy (TTC) research group headed by Professor John Horowitz [now called the Cardiovascular Pathophysiology and Therapeutics Group]. My research interest was to understand the natural history and pathogenesis of Takotsubo Cardiomyopathy.

3. What attracted you to work/study at the BHI?

Having done my physician and cardiology training at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, I had an early exposure to both the research being done at the Basil Hetzel Institute and the scientists. The close collaboration of Basil Hetzel Institute researchers with TQEH clinicians made the BHI an ideal place for me to undertake my research work, which combined basic science, and clinical research work. Knowing that I will have ongoing support from the BHI staff especially the postdoctoral fellows and senior researchers along with ease in patient recruitment from TQEH attracted me to BHI.

4. What were the best things about working/studying at the BHI?

The best thing about working at the BHI was the close collaboration with TQEH clinicians, which greatly assisted my patient recruitment for research projects. At the BHI I had great access to world-class researchers who are world leaders in their field of research.

5. Do you have a favourite memory of your time at the BHI?

The favourite memory of my time at the BHI was the Monday morning meetings of the research group where we discussed and shared ideas about ongoing research projects.

6. Would you recommend the BHI as a place to work/study? Why?

At the BHI, you will have access to world-leading researchers, and networks. The researchers at the BHI are world leaders in their fields, and the BHI has close collaborations with researchers from all over the world. At The Institute you can choose topics from basic to translational clinical science. The close association with TQEH helps in patient recruitment for the projects. The atmosphere at the BHI is relaxed and staff are friendly. You have support from other PhD students, postdoctoral fellows and senior researchers.

7. What have you done since you left the BHI?

After finishing my PhD at the BHI, I travelled to Canada to work as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. I undertook 2 years of clinical and research fellowship. After returning from Canada I joined the Gold Coast University Hospital as an academic cardiologist and simultaneously joined Griffith University as an Associate Professor

of Medicine. I am involved in various research projects at the moment and supervise research students from both Bond and Griffith Universities.

8. What is your biggest career highlight so far?

My biggest career highlight was to receive the Dean's Commendation for Doctoral Thesis Excellence and The University of Adelaide research medal for my PhD thesis.

9. What advice would you give to any current/future students at the BHI?

My advice would be to enjoy the BHI for what it is, that is, to immerse yourself in the research, publish hard and don't miss an opportunity to go overseas on a postdoctoral fellowship.