

**Conference Attended: Developmental Origins of Health And Disease – 9TH
world congress**

Cape Town, South Africa, 8 – 11 November 2015

Recipient: Anan Rajeh Aljahdali

Position: Third year PhD student

Supervisor: Tom Fleming

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the SRF for awarding me with a travel grant, which enabled me to attend the 9TH world congress of the Developmental Origins of Health And Disease in November in Cape Town, South Africa. DOHaD is the premier international meeting within the research field, focusing on how our health and disease risk equate with environmental conditions experienced before birth. My research project has concerned the influence of IVF and the duration of embryo culture, as used in clinical treatment of infertility across the world, and so the congress is exactly the world stage upon which I should present my findings.

I was selected to present an oral-poster presentation entitled “The Effect of Prolonged Embryo Culture on Subsequent Development and Postnatal Health in Mouse Model”. My work, using a mouse model, had identified novel risks for cardiovascular and metabolic health that can traced back to the time of conception and the use of such treatments. My oral-poster presentation was well attended and I benefited from very useful discussion and feedback.

DOHaD was a great conference to attend with an international group of participants. The congress was crucial for my PhD and gave me an excellent opportunity to present and discuss my findings with international experts in the field, broadening my knowledge in various aspects of the influence of Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART) on health and also meet with future collaborators. I am very grateful to the SRF to gave me such an opportunity to enhance my research, CV and career opportunities.

I am very thankful to the SRF for their generous support.

Best Regards,

Anan Aljahdali

PhD Student at the School of Biological Science

The University of Southampton