# SRF travel grant report

**Recipient: Shahriar Mowla**

**Position/institution: 2nd year PhD student, IRDB, Imperial College London**

**Conference: 66th annual scientific meeting, Society for Reproductive Investigation (SRI)**

**Date/location of the conference: March 12th-16th, 2019, Paris, France**

**I’d like to express my sincere gratitude to SRF for kindly sponsoring my attendance to the above mentioned conference. Currently, the area of my research interest is in the reproductive tract microbiota and their impact on immune response and outcome of IVF treatments. I found many sessions to be relevant to my area of interest particularly in uterine microbiome, genomics of embryo implantation and vaginal virome in preterm births.**

**I found the conference very beneficial in the development of my scientific career by taking advantage of early career development workshops and networking events. These sessions broadened my vision for the future not only in an academic sense but also for better understanding of the pharmaceutical research sectors. I also learnt more about grant writing, developing scientific ideas and being an independent researcher.**

**In addition, I presented my research in form of a poster entitled “ characterisation of vaginal cytokine expression during ART: a cohort study”. The poster session resulted in many positive feedbacks and discussions with peers and experts from various institutions. This session also gave me the opportunity to meet other researchers interested in the same area of research as myself with whom I currently correspond and hope to collaborate with in the future.**

**I’d strongly recommend this conference to the members who are particularly interested in microbiomics and preterm birth/complications.**