

Travel grant report  
ASRM 2022  
October 22-26, 2022

First, I would like to thank SRF for providing me with a travel grant without which I could not attend this prestigious conference. This was the first international conference I presented my PhD work, and it was an incredible opportunity to improve my communication and networking skills.

The ASRM 2022 conference was held in Anaheim, California this year and was attended by many prestigious academics and physicians in the field of reproductive medicine. This 4-day meeting was an incredible opportunity to form collaborations and keep abreast with the latest development in the field of reproductive medicine. I presented a poster of my recent work on the DEFB128 gene present in human sperm and its potential role in successful fertilisation. It was very well received, and I got a lot of feedback on my work.

I attended many interesting talks at the conference, but one especially exciting talk was from Prof. Elizabeth Blackburn, a 2009 Nobel laureate, on telomere maintenance in the context of the human ageing process. A statement that stayed with me was “we are living on a genetic knife edge” and this could not be more true in terms of reproductive health. Even from my research, I have seen how the correct complement of proteins is essential for successful fertilization.

Finally, as the conference was in America, I also got the opportunity to explore California and it was an unforgettable experience for me.