

## **A month at the Center for Human Genetics in Leuven**

My name is Maria Chiara Baroni and I am a resident physician in Medical Genetics at Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna, Italy.

In my activity as a resident doctor at the Medical Genetics Units in Bologna and in Reggio Emilia, I developed a particular interest in dysmorphology and pediatric neurodevelopmental disorders. Having started my last year of residency, I was eager to explore new horizons and to gain insights into the practice of a highly specialised European human genetics department.

Thanks to the ESHG Observership Programme, I had the opportunity to spend one month in the Center for Human Genetics at the University Hospital Leuven, Belgium.

During this month, I observed and participated in the daily practice of the diagnostic Laboratory of Developmental Disorders led by Prof. Kris Van Den Bogaert. I learnt the pipeline used to analyse both Whole Exome Sequencing and Whole Genome Sequencing. I also had the chance to participate in weekly Seminars on Genetics & Genomics and in Clinical meetings.

This experience has deepened my knowledge of the genetic etiology of developmental disorders, enhanced my clinical and technical skills and has represented a meaningful contribution to my education as a Clinical Geneticist.

Maria Chiara Baroni