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During my residency, I was very interested in endoscopic sinus surgery. However, I found myself looking to what is beyond the basic endoscopic sinus surgery. I was dreaming of advanced endoscopic sinus surgery. Unfortunately, this subspecialty is not well established in our home department.

I am very convinced in what was told to Professor Dr. Howard House, the ‘Father of Neurotology’, by his father Dr. House, after he had finished his specialty training, ‘Now is the best time to place yourself at the feet of the greats, whose papers you have read. Watch them in surgery and in laboratory, see how compassionate they are with their patients, see how their family lives are, learn their motivations, and find out why they are at the top of the ladder’, and added ‘Regardless of whom you visit you will pick up pearls of wisdom. Some you will use, some you will not. But you will be in a better position to care for your own patients’ [1].

I could not arrange for an international visit; the conditions in Egypt were not settled after the revolution on 25 January 2011. Hence, I decided to start a local visit to Otorhinolaryngology Department, Kasr El-Aini Hospital, Cairo University, Egypt.

Although I faced a lot of bureaucracy, I had to leave my family, and I knew that my income would be markedly reduced during the visit, nothing could change my decision. I was insisting to learn.

If you wish to be an endoscopic sinus surgeon, search for the greats, whose papers you have read, and place yourself at their feet. You may face a lot of bureaucracy, and you may leave your family, staying away of your home, but nothing should change your decision, if you are insisting to learn.

Keywords:
endoscopic sinus surgery, Professor Dr. Howard House, Kasr El-Aini Hospital

In conclusion, in my own opinion, the first step in the making of an endoscopic sinus surgeon is ‘Place yourself at the feet of the greats’.