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My name is Dearbhla Kelly and I'm an Irish Nephrology fellow currently working With the Oxford Vascular Study (OXVASC) group. I am a recipient of a European Stroke Organisation scholarship and I started the European Master in Stroke Medicine in November 2016. Kidney disease and stroke have common traditional cardiovascular risk factors, such as ageing, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidaemia, obesity, and smoking. However novel non-traditional risk factors namely chronic inflammation, oxidative stress, sympathetic nerve and overactivity, thrombogenic factors, -also contribute to the excess risk of cerebrovascular disease in patients with chronic kidney disease by triggering vascular injury and endothelial dysfunction. My intention was to explore cerebralrenal connections further by undertaking a DPhil (PhD) with Peter Rothwell at the University of Oxford. We are investigating the relationship between early renal impairment and subtype and severity of stroke using a population-based study. This course gives me wonderful training in Stroke Medicine to complement my Nephrology training for this DPhil. Studying the pathophysiology of cerebral circulation and vascular biology is particularly relevant and helpful for my research. The masters is incredibly well-structured and organized with dedicated modules to imaging and pathophysiology, clinical epidemiology, diagnostics, and therapeutics. The faculty are all world-class experts in their field but very approachable. My classmates are all equally talented and accomplished. Krems is a beautiful location for the course with an atmospheric historic centre. I would highly recommend this Masters to future participants as a very exciting and intellectually stimulating experience.