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I have known the Japanese Bolivian Gastroenterology Institute (IGBJ) and, in turn, the La Paz Training Center as a student. I am currently active at the Institute and the program as part of the staff and teaching group. It makes me very happy to be part of a family that puts their knowledge and skills for the benefit of our patients with the great challenge that our work also guides and helps young doctors who access scholarships at our Institute so they can receive adequate training.

Consider that our Training Center has very varied case-based methods, but it also has a high incidence of biliary digestive pathologies, which have reference in our region. This allows our staff and students to develop skills in these diseases.

During 2019 our Institute experienced the unfortunate loss of Dr. Gustavo Vidales, who during his work activity contracted Arenavirus. We also saw the retirement of Dr. Guido Villa-Gómez, who stopped being an official part of the staff. Through his commitment and dedication in person to the Institute, he served as a guide, helping the training of our fellows.

In all, I can say that I feel part of a team of people who want to grow, that has the right conditions to train specialists from the region, and at the same time makes them part of our family.

