

Turkish Member Visits Stanford University to Learn Advanced Techniques

Host Institution – Stanford University

Preceptee – Batuhan Kerem Balan, MD

Preceptor – Nour Kibbi, MD

I was honored to be selected for the 2025 ASDS International Preceptorship Program and had the privilege of spending two weeks in August 2025 at Stanford University's Department of Dermatology. My primary preceptor was Dr. Nour Kibbi, whose mentorship, guidance and generosity with her time were truly inspiring. Her dedication to both clinical excellence and academic advancement left a lasting impression on me, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to learn directly from her.



Preceptor Dr. Nour Kibbi and preceptee Dr. Batuhan Balan

During my time at Stanford, I also had the unique opportunity to spend significant time with Drs. Gordon Bae, Zakia Rahman and Dayan Li. Each of them welcomed me into their clinical practice and shared their perspectives on patient care, procedural techniques and academic growth. Observing their approaches broadened my understanding of dermatology beyond the boundaries of my prior training and enriched the overall experience. In particular, I spent two full days in Dr. Rahman's clinic, which was both highly educational and truly enjoyable. Her ability to combine a welcoming clinical environment with cutting-edge procedural practice made those days especially memorable.

The preceptorship exposed me to a wide range of advanced dermatologic procedures. I observed the use of botulinum toxin and fillers in both routine and challenging cases, as well as the innovative application of hyaluronidase injections for systemic sclerosis-related microstomia, which was particularly enlightening as it demonstrated how procedural dermatology can address functional limitations in addition to aesthetic concerns.

One of the most valuable aspects of the program was the opportunity to observe Mohs micrographic surgery, including procedures performed in anatomically complex and cosmetically sensitive regions. Watching how these cases were managed – balancing oncologic safety with functional and aesthetic outcomes – was an eye-opening experience.

Beyond the technical aspects, I was also able to witness the collaborative environment within the department. The faculty and staff fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect, teamwork and continuous learning. Their openness and willingness to share knowledge created a supportive environment that allowed me to grow, not only as a physician but also as a future academic dermatologist.

This preceptorship has been a transformative milestone in my career. It enhanced my understanding of procedural dermatology and reinforced the importance of innovation, multidisciplinary collaboration and patient-centered care. I am sincerely thankful to Dr. Kibbi for her mentorship and to Drs. Bae, Rahman and Li for generously including me in their clinical work. The experience will continue to guide my future practice and academic contributions.



Dr. Balan with Dr. Rahman, her staff and ASDS residents
Drs. Benjamin Gallo Marin and Austin Johnson



Dr. Gordon Bae and Dr. Balan



Dr. Dayan Li and Dr. Balan