

2010/2011MDS Mentorship Program Summary of Experience

Through the MDS scholarship I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Qureshi, at the Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School. Upon arriving, Dr. Qureshi welcomed me and had a fantastic schedule organized for my rotation there. My time was divided into medical dermatology clinic time and epidemiologic research time. This combination provided me with a rich educational experience and motivated me to continue working in this area and in academia.

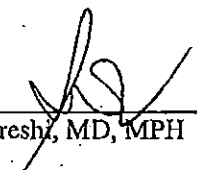
During my clinical time, I worked with top notch experts in various fields of medical dermatology, including psoriasis, vesiculobullous disease, CTCL, graft versus host disease, and connective tissue disease. I was able to see patients who had been referred from as far away as New York City and even Texas for evaluation of their condition. I become more comfortable with managing these conditions, in an academic and engaging environment. Also, I participated in several multi-disciplinary clinics, such as the Dermatology-Rheumatology Clinic and the Cutaneous Oncology Clinic. Through these, I gained a better understanding of how patients can gain from interdisciplinary expertise through a collaborative treatment plan.

During my research time, I had the opportunity to participate in an epidemiologic study, using data from the Nurses Health Study to evaluate the association between a chronic infection and psoriasis. Dr. Qureshi met with me regularly to develop the research plan and invited me to his research meetings, where I learned about his team's other active research projects in the area of dermatoloepidemiology. I am currently collaborating with Dr. Qureshi and his team through email to present our findings at the Society for Investigative Dermatology Annual Meeting.

Also, since Harvard Medical School is one of the few dermatology programs that has a combined program with internal medicine as well, Dr. Qureshi encouraged me to meet with the Harvard Medicine-Dermatology residents over dinner. This gave us an opportunity to exchange ideas about the combined program, and we are currently in the process of organizing a meet-up for the Medicine-Dermatology residents of all programs at the AAD.

In addition to gaining from the experiences above, having Dr. Qureshi's mentorship has been invaluable. He was an outstanding host throughout my time in Boston and made it a point to include me medical dermatology activities, including conferences, rheumatology clinics, and journal clubs. I was also able to meet with him to discuss my future goals and get his incite and guidance on academic options and opportunities. His mentorship has been such a positive and enriching experience. I am so grateful for the funding and support of the MDS, who made this possible. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Sarah Nakib, MD MPH
University of Minnesota Medical School, Medicine-Dermatology Resident, PGY4


Abrar Qureshi, MD, MPH

11/30/10