

Medical Dermatology Society Mentorship Summary
Mentor - Dr. Abrar Qureshi

To the Medical Dermatology Society:

Thank you and Dr. Qureshi for providing me with an outstanding opportunity to study connective tissue disease as it relates to dermatology, to see a different way of inpatient/outpatient dermatology practice and learn from professors and residents alike at the Brigham and Women's Hospital.

It was a pleasure and great opportunity to work with Dr. Abrar Qureshi (Dermatology), Dr. Ruth Ann Vleugels (Dermatology), Dr. Henry Townsend (Rheumatology/Dermatology), Dr. Joseph Merola (Dermatology/Rheumatology/Internal Medicine), Dr. Elaine Mody (Rheumatology), Dr. Arturo Saavedra (Dermatology/Internal Medicine/Dermatopathology), Dr. Peter Schur (Rheumatology), Dr. Michael Lichtman (Dermatology) and Dr. Thomas Kupper (Dermatology/CTCL). In addition, I was privileged to work with the residents of the Harvard Dermatology Residency Program who were outstanding in their teaching ability for visitors and clinical care. I was able to take part in their weekly grand rounds with live patients, board preparatory sessions, case discussions and melanoma conference with experts like Dr. George Murphy and Dr. Martin Mihm.

The large number of patients with connective tissue diseases made the elective very valuable in visualizing patients with disease, but more importantly, was a teaching tool in how they can be managed in a tertiary care setting. The ability to evaluate and treat connective tissue diseases like dermatomyositis, scleroderma, lupus and even psoriatic arthritis from multiple different specialty perspectives was also helpful in integrating care for patients. This elective was a great building block for me as I look towards initiating a focused clinic for rheumatology/dermatology patients at the University of Massachusetts.

I would recommend this elective to any dermatology resident who is interested in rheumatology/dermatology and/or complex medical dermatology. Prior to this rotation, despite caring for many patients with inherited epidermolysis bullosa in our clinic, I had not seen or cared for a patient with epidermolysis bullosa acquisita. During this elective, there were two patients whom I saw with EBA and learned about their disease and treatment. In addition, when working in Dr. Saavedra's clinic, we saw multiple cases of severe pemphigus requiring systemic therapy, like chemotherapy and IVIg.

I am very grateful to have had this amazing opportunity and it would not have been possible without the financial support of the Medical Dermatology Society and Dr. Abrar Qureshi and his colleagues.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Mailhot
June 13, 2011

