

Dear Medical Dermatology Society Mentorship Program Committee,

I am pleased to update you on my recent experience made possible by the Medical Dermatology Society Mentorship grant. I spent the month of October 2022 at the University of Pennsylvania, Department of Dermatology. I spent my mornings in complex medical dermatology specialty clinics and my afternoons on the inpatient consult service. I saw many pathologies that I had only read about but had never seen before in a real patient setting, including severe purpura fulminans due to disseminated intravascular coagulation in a patient with lupus and Kikuchi syndrome, various presentations of sarcoidosis, lupus miliaris disseminatus faciei, livedoid vasculopathy, monkeypox involving the eye, and many more. In addition to seeing rare pathologies, I learned about the nuances of management from Dr. Rosenbach, Dr. Micheletti, and Dr. Forrestel on the inpatient service.

In morning specialty clinics, I learned about sarcoidosis and granulomatous diseases with Dr. Rosenbach, vasculopathies and hidradenitis with Dr. Micheletti, lupus and dermatomyositis with Dr. Werth, GVHD with Dr. Baumrin, and cutaneous T-cell lymphoma with Dr. Kim. Furthermore, I had the great opportunity to learn from Dr. Berk-Krauss, a fellow in complex medical dermatology, both in clinic and on the consult service.

Although I have committed to research projects at my home institution since applying for the Medical Dermatology Society Mentorship grant, I still have a desire to help combat climate change. Dr. Rosenbach connected me with medical students at Penn who are leading a red bag waste reduction project. Hearing their approach was very insightful, and I am currently trying to assemble a team to investigate the red bag waste situation at my home institution.

I have prepared a pre-quiz, post-quiz, and an hour long presentation for my home institution, highlighting interesting things that I learned from patient cases during my time at the University of Pennsylvania. I am scheduled to give this presentation in late December to the entire dermatology department, including residents, faculty and medical students interested in dermatology. I also plan to present a poster summarizing my experience and presentation at the MDS annual meeting in New Orleans in March of 2023.

Not only did I have an incredibly fun month learning inpatient dermatology and complex medical dermatology, I also learned more about the career opportunities in this area. I have been interested in hospital dermatology and complex medical dermatology ever since I became interested in dermatology in medical school, and this rotation solidified my passion and desire to practice inpatient dermatology as a dermatologic hospitalist. I gained the invaluable mentorship of Dr. Rosenbach and others. Given that this is a small field with only a fraction of dermatologists practicing in the hospital setting, the mentorship and career advice I gained on this rotation was especially insightful and encouraging. This rotation, made possible by the Medical Dermatology Society Mentorship grant, propelled me further toward my career goals. I came back to my home program in Austin very energized about becoming the best dermatologist that I can become and very excited for a future career in inpatient dermatology!

Sincerely and with great gratitude,

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