

I want to express my deepest gratitude to Dr. Daniela Kroshinsky and the Medical Dermatology Society for their generous mentorship award. My month-long experience under the guidance and mentorship of Dr. Kroshinsky at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) served as a capstone to my residency, solidifying my future career plans.

Throughout February of 2023, my month was spent between Dr. Kroshinsky's clinics and MGH's robust inpatient Dermatology consult service. My focus was on the evaluation and treatment of patients with Calciphylaxis, and general approaches to inpatient and outpatient wound care.

Perhaps the most impactful experience was caring for a patient with non-uremic Calciphylaxis resulting in a prolonged hospitalization with many clinical ups and downs. Starting with morphology; Dr. Kroshinsky's approach to evaluating retiform purpura helped me create a framework when evaluating all wounds. It was extremely instructive to reflect on multiple clinical presentations throughout the month, as well as individual patient's clinical evolution. "Rule out Calciphylaxis" was a common consult question, yet each patient received individual insights. Watching Dr. Kroshinsky nuanced approach to the multimodal nature of wounds in the complex patients with multiple systemic diseases was transformative.

I learned the value of wound care that is pragmatic, interdisciplinary, and comes foremost from a place of compassion. This was underscored by the multidisciplinary meeting between this patient's internal medicine, palliative care, and dermatology teams. I saw that when inpatient dermatology leads in the hospital, the entire medical team and patient benefits. This compassion was echoed in the outpatient setting. In evaluating a new patient referred for refractory Calciphylaxis, the patient's physical discomfort and exhaustion from medical evaluation was clear. This was transformed to hope as the appointment progressed. Receiving updates on this patient's improvement remain a highlight of the month.

My experience at MGH was accentuated by the opportunity to work with Dr. Tsiaras at Brigham and Women's Hospital in his wound care clinic for the day. This offered a new perspective on how wound care can be delivered to the most dermatologically complex wounds. I enjoyed seeing the creative and evidence-based approaches to address wounds in challenging environments, including those induced by radiation or peristomal wounds.

In addition to these clinical opportunities, I enjoyed attending the Masterclasses in Dermatology conference with Dr. Kroshinsky in Sarasota, Florida. The talks were informative and collaborative, bringing together individuals outside of dermatology to speak to their specialties including ophthalmology and rheumatology. As I begin my career as Dermatologist and Internal Medicine Hospitalist, I hope that my career will echo this value of interdisciplinary collaboration and curiosity. However, beyond the substance of the talks, I was most impressed by the collegial atmosphere that welcomed me.

As I returned home to my home institution, I was greeted by peers and mentors eager to hear about my experience. This experience is so much more than the clinical opportunity. While collaborating with residents and faculty from MGH, the MDS helps to transform a group of incredibly accomplished individuals into a smaller community that is friendly and collegial. I am grateful to be part of a society that encourages the development of its younger membership. I hope to use this experience as a springboard for my early career and continue to contribute to the Medical Dermatology Society.

Gratefully,



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