

A New Chapter in Dermatology Finally Arrives in Las Vegas

As the Dermatology Residency Director at Valley Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas, Nevada, it has been an honor to both plan and edit this issue of *Cosmetic Dermatology*® dedicated to our residency program. This 3-year residency program started in July 2006 and is approved by the American Osteopathic Association and the American Osteopathic College of Dermatology. It has been a rewarding experience, both professionally and personally, to participate in teaching dermatology residents and to interact with interns and students who rotate through our service and express a strong interest in dermatology as their career choice. Throughout my 21 years in practice, I have always remained involved with dermatology from an academic perspective, through both presentations and publications. However, the day-to-day interaction with residents in a clinical setting, and specifically the field of dermatology, has revitalized me, and I continue to learn new information every day. In addition to this, I am very proud that this program is the first dermatology residency program in the history of the state of Nevada.

For this issue of *Cosmetic Dermatology*, I assisted the residents, interns, and students in selecting cases and topics and provided them with authorship guidance. My goal was to serve as a mentor who could augment their abilities to read references thoroughly and to extract clinically and scientifically relevant information that is of interest to the reader. To have individuals in the program who are dedicated to publishing early on in their careers has been beneficial to everyone involved.

Our first resident, Sanjay Bhambri, DO, played a significant role in authoring several of the articles in this issue and also provided guidance to other authors. Saira Momin, DO, our second resident as of July 2007, has already been given direction and guidance regarding preparation of publications through our program. I am proud to say that under my supervision, dermatology residents in the program participate regularly in teaching various dermatology subjects through presentations at medical institutions in Las Vegas and Henderson, Nevada. Through oral presentations and publication experience, my goal is to help residents become comfortable with public speaking and medical writing and

to understand the challenges that are inherent to the presentation of scientific information to colleagues, peers, students, and the lay public.

Jason Michaels, MD, director of Aspire Cosmetic MedCenter in Las Vegas, Nevada, an affiliate of Las Vegas Skin & Cancer Clinics, participates in teaching cosmetic dermatology for the program. I appreciate his state-of-the-art contribution to this issue. Narciss Mobini, MD, who participates as faculty in our program in the area of dermatopathology, has consistently been a valuable teacher for the residents and has also provided her assistance and expertise on many of the articles. I am also thankful to the other authors, including Paul Janda, DO, an intern at Valley Hospital Medical Center; Helen Kaporis, DO, an intern at Nassau University Medical Center in East Meadow, New York; and Brent Michaels, a fourth-year medical student at Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Henderson. Of interest is that Dr. Kaporis completed a one-year research fellowship working with James Krueger, MD, PhD, at Rockefeller University, and John Carucci, MD, PhD, at Weill Cornell Medical College, both in New York, New York. Dr. Kaporis' research was dedicated to evaluating peritumoral inflammation in basal cell carcinoma. She enlightened us with this information during her one-month rotation at our program and very willingly participated as an author in this issue despite her pressing internship obligations. All of the authors worked hard on these articles and I am very proud of them.

Finally, I would like to thank my colleagues at Las Vegas Skin & Cancer Clinics who participate as faculty in the program. They include the codirector of the program, Jaldeep Daulat, DO, Sigfried Muller, MD, Michael Bryan, MD, and Steve Hawkers, PA-C. Without their help, it would not be possible to provide a complete and well-balanced educational program.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Cosmetic Dermatology*, and I anticipate that the information will prove to be valuable to you in your practice.

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