

28th Turkish National Dermatology Congress, September 24–28, 2019, Antalya, Turkey

The 28th Turkish National Dermatology Congress, held in the Sueno Hotel Deluxe Belek in magnificent Antalya, Turkey, on September 24–28, 2019, was a huge success. Organized by the Turkish Society of Dermatology and Marmara University School of Medicine, it was adroitly shepherded by Congress President Professor Dr. Tülin Ergun, Turkish Society of Dermatology Professor Dr. Emel Erdal Çalikoğlu, and Congress Secretary Professor Dr. Dilek Seçkin Gençosmanoğlu [Figure 1].

This conference featured the best of Turkish dermatology supplemented by five international featured speakers. Yolanda Gilaberte (Spain) enlightened attendees on photodynamic therapy. Iltefat Hamzavi (USA) covered hidradenitis suppurativa and vitiligo, noting the value of treatment for the latter with *Ginkgo biloba* (40mg

three times a day for 6 months or 60mg twice a day for 3 months). Hassan Galadari (UAE) elucidated the anatomical correlation of soft tissue augmentation. Sinead Langan (UK) analyzed herpes zoster infections, ranging from prevention to complications and management. Robert A. Schwartz (USA) highlighted life-threatening drug eruptions, emphasizing necrotizing myocarditis as a late sequela of the Drug Rash with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS) syndrome.

The Congress commenced with a full day filled with many workshops and presentations and continued for four more productive days. Gonca Gökdemir covered use of botulinum toxin. Dermatoscopic evaluation of benign pigmented lesions was detailed by Özgür Timurkaynak. Özlem Dicle expounded on telogen



Figure 1: Congress leadership welcoming three international guests: Congress President Tülin Ergun, Yolanda Gilaberte, Iltefat Hamzavi, Congress Secretary Dilek Seçkin Gençosmanoğlu, Robert A. Schwartz, Selda Pelin Karta, and Dilek Bayramgürler (right to left)



Figure 2: Turkish Society of Dermatology President Emel Erdal Çalıkoğlu, Robert A. Schwartz, 29th Congress President (2020) Akın Aktaş, 28th Congress President Tülin Ergun, and Congress Secretary Dilek Seçkin Gençosmanoğlu honor incoming 29th Congress President Akın Aktaş (left to right)



Figure 3: International guest professors exploring the ancient city of Perge: Juan de Aragón, Yolanda Gilaberte, Iltefat Hamzavi, and Robert A. Schwartz (left to right)

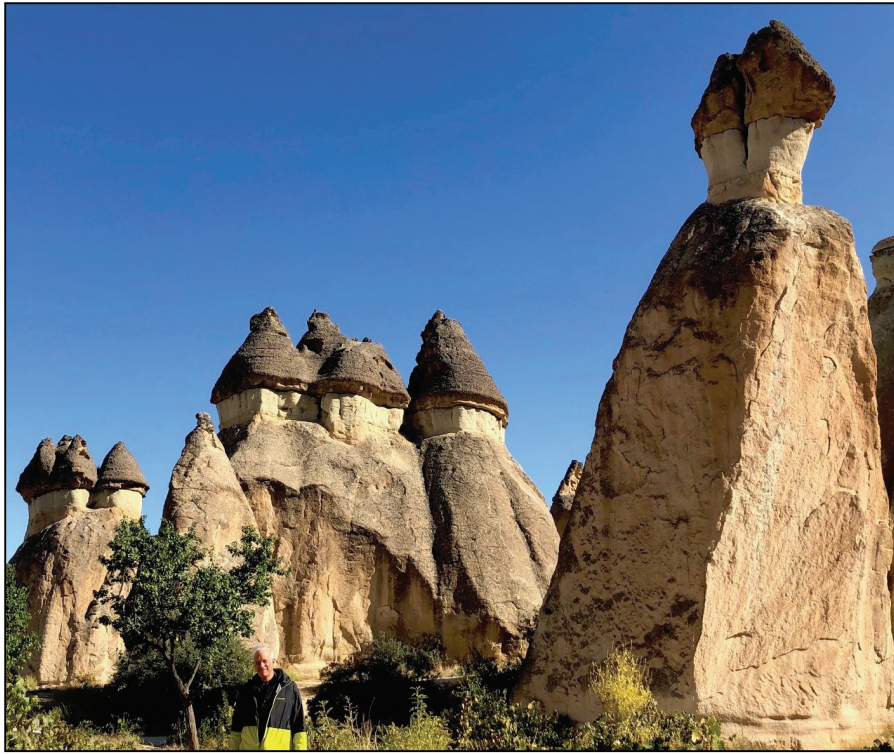


Figure 4: Cappadocia with its surreal volcanic rock formations, the famous “fairy chimneys”

effluvium, with the color transition sign emphasized as a useful trichoscopic finding to distinguish alopecia areata from telogen effluvium. Sema Aytekin delineated the pathogenesis of seborrheic dermatitis. Sibel Ersoy Evans discussed neonatal erythroderma. *Turkish Journal of Dermatology* Editor-in-Chief Professor Dr. Soner Uzun cochaired the session on autoimmune bullous diseases and lectured in it on cutaneous and mucosal care, stressing supportive treatment options. Turkish Society of Dermatology Treasurer Mehmet Salih Gürel evinced patient management for toxic epidermal necrolysis and other life-threatening drug eruptions. The distinguished history of Turkish dermatology was adroitly illuminated by Cengizhan Erdem. Turkish Society of Dermatology General Secretary Dilek Bayramgürler discussed mycosis fungoides. Dermatology residents also took an active role, serving as speakers, and in innovative formats such as “Residents are Asking: Professional Problems” in which four residents queried five dermatologists each practicing in different settings: private practice, a state hospital, university hospital, or in academics. The goal was to help residents craft their future plans.

This event was unforgettable. This 28th meeting was proclaimed as a tribute to the leadership skills of Congress President Professor Dr. Tülin Ergun, Turkish Society of Dermatology Professor Dr. Emel Erdal Çalıkoğlu, and Congress Secretary Professor Dr. Dilek Seckin Gencosmanoğlu, with the assistance of an efficient project implementation team headed by Kamelya Özdemir and the youthful encouragement

of future dermatology professor Kenan Çalıkoğlu. Incoming 29th Congress President (2020) Professor Dr. Akın Aktaş was congratulated and presented with a giant congress key to unlock and promulgate in 2020 an updated fountain of dermatologic knowledge [Figure 2]. International visiting professors enjoyed amazing historical sites and volcanic geological formations [Figures 3 and 4], and practiced saying “teşekkürler” in gratitude for a wonderful educational experience shared with their Turkish colleagues.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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