



Saudi Arabian Member Visits Chicago for Mohs Preceptorship

Fatimah Al Muqarrab, MD, sought experience in observing Mohs surgeries, reading pathology slides, joining case-by-case discussions and observing defect closures.

I am a surgical dermatology fellow in Saudi Arabia and applied for the ASDS International Preceptorship Program to learn more about Mohs and reconstructive surgeries. Statistically, skin cancers in Saudi Arabia are low in prevalence compared to the U.S., so we are not practicing this part of the specialty as much. Because of the local globalization of the workforces and residents, we are seeing more and more skin cancers, so I wanted to learn precisely how Mohs surgery is done and how reconstructive surgeries are executed.

In October, I traveled to Chicago, Illinois, to shadow Murad Alam, MD, MBA, at Northwestern University for three weeks. From the first day I stepped into the department, everyone was super helpful, welcoming and informative. I kept close touch with each step of Mohs surgery procedure, histopathologic slides reading and ended with the defects reconstructions. The experience enriched me with great surgical tips, an in-depth understanding of flaps' geometric dynamics and design, surgical site identification and the proper dealing with patients' concerns.

Happily, I met wonderful people during my stay, including Dr. Alam's Mohs fellows: Drs. Proffer and Fayne. The full experience was incredible. I highly appreciate the opportunity I was given, and I'm so thankful for the chance to experience an ASDS international preceptorship. ●

