

The Isil Berat Barlan Memorial Lectureship



Professor Dr. Işıl Berat Barlan (1958-2015) was born in Trabzon, Turkey. She attended Robert College in Istanbul and received her medical degree from Istanbul University Cerrahpaşa Faculty of Medicine. She completed her residency in Pediatrics at Marmara University Faculty of Medicine, Istanbul.

She trained in Allergy and Immunology first with Dr. Müjdat Başaran at Marmara University and later with Dr. Raif Geha at the Boston Children's Hospital. She went on to become the Chair of Pediatrics and the Chief of the Division of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology at Marmara University.

Professor Barlan was a visionary physician-scientist who made a profound impact on the science and health care delivery in Allergy and Immunology in Turkey and beyond. She was a highly productive investigator, with more than 120 peer-reviewed papers in international and national Journals. Critically, she engaged in building a research and academic infrastructure in Allergy and Immunology in Turkey, established enduring international collaborations and mentored a large number of investigators and practitioners in the field.

Professor Barlan has made numerous key contributions to the field of Allergy and Immunology at large. In a series of highly cited papers, she established the efficacy of pharmacotherapy with intranasal steroids in allergic rhinitis and rhinosinusitis, and that of sublingual immunotherapy for allergic upper airway disease and asthma.

She also pioneered combination subcutaneous and sublingual immunotherapy for allergic asthma. Professor Barlan made critical contributions in the field of primary immunodeficiencies (PID). Professor Barlan actively engaged in national and international collaborations on the investigation, diagnosis and management of primary immunodeficiency diseases. She played a critical role in studies that led to the identification of DOCK8 deficiency as the underlying cause of the autosomal recessive form of the hyper IgE syndrome as well as other novel immunodeficiencies.

The ambitious scope of Professor Barlan's studies was enabled by her creation of productive research and training programs and community outreach efforts. She established the first Jeffrey Modell Center for Primary Immunodeficiency and the first International Patient Organization for Primary Immunodeficiencies chapter in Turkey, both placed at Marmara University. A critical achievement of Dr. Barlan was her training of a large number of academic physician-scientists in Allergy/Immunology, with many of her trainees assuming leadership positions in Turkey and abroad. Professor Barlan had a particular interest in women advancement in science, an issue that she strongly advocated for in both national and international forums. She trained several women physician-scientists, who went on to lead their own programs in Allergy and Immunology.

Professor Barlan was a member of the AAAAI, and an active participant and speaker at its annual meetings. She served on the executive committee of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI). She was the recipient of a number of awards, including the highly prestigious Sedat Simavi Prize in Turkey for her scientific contributions in the field of immunotherapy, as well as multiple prizes by the Turkish Society of Pediatrics, Marmara University Medical Faculty and Istanbul Provincial Directorate for her medical research and clinical excellence.

2017 marks the 1st year of the Isil Berat Barlan Memorial Lectureship. It will be presented in Symposium Session 3308: Pathways to the Development of Asthma: Lessons from the Inner City Asthma Consortium, Sunday, March 5, 2017: 10:45 am to 12:00 pm, Convention Center, Level Five, Thomas B. Murphy Ballroom 12

The Isil Berat Barlan Memorial Lectureship - Jacqueline Pongratic, MD FAAAAI



Dr Jacqueline Pongratic received her MD degree from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. After internal medicine residency at North Shore University Hospital and Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York, she completed an allergy-immunology fellowship at Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore, MD. She returned to Northwestern for a joint faculty appointment in internal medicine and pediatrics.

Dr Pongratic was appointed Division Head of Allergy-Immunology in the Department of Pediatrics at Ann & Robert H Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago (formerly Children's Memorial Hospital) in 2004. She was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine at Northwestern in 2010.

She served as co-training program director for the pediatrics fellowship track from 2000-2006. She is currently the Director of the FARE Clinical Center Network site at Lurie Children's and serves on FARE's Medical Advisory Board and Outcomes Research Advisory Board.

Dr. Pongratic is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Allergy and Immunology. She has served as an ad hoc study section reviewer for the NIH. Dr. Pongratic is a Fellow of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (AAAAI) and a member of the Advocacy Committee.

She is a former chair of the Adverse Reactions to Foods Committee of the AAAAI and has served on several other AAAAI committees. She is a former president of the Illinois Society for Allergy, Asthma and Immunology. She has served as a Visiting Professor through the William E. Pierson Memorial Faculty Visitation Program.

Dr. Pongratic has played an active role in advocacy related to food allergy both for patients and for our specialty. Her primary clinical and research interests are food allergy and childhood asthma. She serves as site PI for 2 NIH-funded asthma research networks: The Inner City Asthma Consortium and AsthmaNet. She has been site PI for several multi-center food allergy clinical trials, including studies of alternative medicine, epicutaneous immunotherapy and oral immunotherapy with and without adjunctive therapy.

Under her direction, Lurie Children's is nationally recognized for its programs in patient care as well as in clinical and translational research related to food allergy and asthma. Dr. Pongratic has been a teacher and mentor to many young physicians in the field of Allergy and Immunology and Pediatrics.