

# Celebrating 25 Years

Wm. Philip Werschler, MD



Twenty-five is an interesting number: 2 bits, quarter century, silver anniversary, peak of youth, or even the end of youthful indiscretion! Twenty-five years ago, there was a new expanding trend in the world of dermatology that had begun to take hold, especially in private practices; this trend was the logical outgrowth of advances made especially in surgical dermatology. Here, the combination of postoperative reconstruction and greater attention to aesthetic outcome in skin cancer patients resulted in increasing surgical skills for dermatologists. The introduction of early laser technology, advances in the understanding of skin biology, and the influence of topical agents were added to the existing repertoire of collagen injections, hair transplants, chemical peels, and dermabrasion. A new subspecialty in dermatology—*cosmetic dermatology*—was emerging, combining the diagnostic and treatment acumen of the medical dermatologist with the technical skills of the dermatologic surgeon as well as focusing on the enhancement of skin health and appearance, rejuvenation of the aging face, and restoration of photodamaged skin. The only thing missing was a way to communicate on a peer-to-peer basis through a professional printed format known as the medical journal.

The journal *Cosmetic Dermatology*<sup>®</sup> was launched 25 years ago. “Cos Derm,” as it is often affectionately nicknamed, was the venue to educate, communicate, express opinions, and learn about the rapid advances occurring in the new subspecialty of cosmetic dermatology. The original Medical Editor Richard B. Odom, MD, began the process that continues today. Now that the world of aesthetic medicine, including cosmetic dermatology, has

exploded in popularity, *Cosmetic Dermatology* not only has maintained its relevance but has expanded along with the growth of the marketplace and specialty.

To capitalize on this growth, *Cosmetic Dermatology* is both pleased and proud to announce the appointment of 2 members of our Editorial Board to the positions of Associate Editors: Suzan Obagi, MD, and Gary Goldenberg, MD.

Dr. Obagi, a graduate of the University of California, San Diego (BS/BA), and the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (MD), Pennsylvania, is board certified in both dermatology and cosmetic surgery. Currently an Associate Professor of both dermatology and surgery (Division of Plastic Surgery), Dr. Obagi also is the Medical Director of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Cosmetic Surgery and Skin Health Center. Dr. Obagi has been published extensively in the fields of cosmetic and surgical dermatology and has contributed to educating dermatologists, plastic surgeons, facial plastic surgeons, oculoplastic surgeons, and oral maxillofacial surgeons through her work with the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery. Dr. Obagi is directly involved with the teaching of medical students at UPMC where she is the Course Director of the dermatology portion of the Specialty Care Clerkship for second-year medical students. Additionally, Dr. Obagi has taught the dermatology resident surgery core curriculum at UPMC for the past decade, and in her teaching faculty position as Director of the University of Pittsburgh’s Cosmetic Surgery Fellowship, she has mentored many of our practicing colleagues.

Beyond her academic pursuits, Dr. Obagi frequently contributes as a dermatology and cosmetic surgery expert for media interviews and presentations. She is a Past President of the Cosmetic Surgery Foundation and a past officer and member of the Board of Directors for the American Board of Cosmetic Surgery. On a personal

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*From the University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle.  
The author reports no conflicts of interest in relation to this article.*

## EDITORIAL

note, Dr. Obagi is a proud mother of 3 children. She enjoys sports activities with her kids, gardening, opera, and photography.

Dr. Gary Goldenberg graduated from La Salle University (BA), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Temple University (MD), Philadelphia. After his internal medicine internship at Albert Einstein Medical Center Philadelphia, Dr. Goldenberg completed his dermatology residency at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, after which he completed a fellowship in dermatopathology at the University of Colorado, Aurora. Board certified in both dermatology and dermatopathology, Dr. Goldenberg currently is an Assistant Professor of Dermatology and Pathology at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, New York, as well as the Medical Director of the Dermatology Faculty Practice at Mount Sinai Hospital.

In his research endeavors, Dr. Goldenberg has been involved as the Principal Investigator for a number of clinical trials; he also has published and lectured extensively in both cosmetic and noncosmetic dermatology. Dr. Goldenberg has been a Meeting Director for the

Annual Mount Sinai Winter Symposium since 2010 and serves on the editorial boards for more than a dozen specialty journals. Dr. Goldenberg actively engages in teaching medical students and dermatology residents through his academic practice as well as his lectures. Additionally, Dr. Goldenberg serves as the Vice President and Treasurer as well as a member of the Board of Directors for the Dermatologic Society of Greater New York. On a personal note, Dr. Goldenberg is married; he and his wife have a 1-year-old daughter. Dr. Goldenberg enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading, and exercising.

Please welcome Drs. Obagi and Goldenberg in their new roles as we celebrate not only the 25th year of *Cosmetic Dermatology* but also the emergence of the specialty of dermatology as a leading member of the aesthetic community. With their extensive professional backgrounds, exposure, skills, and experience, I am excited to work with Drs. Obagi and Goldenberg to position *Cosmetic Dermatology* as an authoritative source of education, communication, and opinions in the field of cosmetic dermatology for the next 25 years! ■