

Orthodontic Faculty Development Fellowship Award

Dr. Isil Aras, Jacksonville University

I received my D.D.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees from Ege University, Izmir, Turkey. I have been serving as a full-time clinical assistant professor at Jacksonville University since 2018. I am a member of the Turkish and European Orthodontic Societies and the American Association of Orthodontists. During my training and professional career, I have over 25 publications. I serve as a reviewer of the American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics, the Angle Orthodontist, and Orthodontics and Craniofacial Research and serve as an editorial board member for the Angle Orthodontist.



This past year has been challenging for everyone. As a result of this unprecedented public health crisis caused by approximately 34 million cases in the US, The American Association of Orthodontists Foundation announced a new call for proposals on COVID-19-related research to adapt to the current healthcare landscape and rapidly changing healthcare conditions. When regular healthcare is suspended, remote patient monitoring seems to be the most viable alternative. Despite its highly anticipated positive impact on orthodontic practice, there are many unknowns related to this new technological development, including the accuracy of tracking three-dimensional tooth movement, reliability in the context of patient-related factors, and possible limitations. Thus, we intend to compare the reliability and accuracy of 3D tooth movement data generated by remote dental monitoring with data from intraoral iTero scans (Align Technology, San Jose, CA, USA).

During my career, I observed that every individual has a different way of retaining information. We must respect such differences and adapt to students' needs. In order to address these issues, I hope to attend more educational programs like the American Dental Education Association conference as opportunities arise and enhance my teaching skills and learn new strategies. Additionally, the education one person receives is reflected in the quality of the education he or she provides. I would like to extend my license for Meta-Analysis software and continue my data-mining efforts to be able to train higher-caliber residents and continue publishing systematic reviews.

Approximately 5% of the U.S. population has dentofacial deformities that are not amenable to orthodontics alone, and surgery is required as part of their treatment plan. Orthognathic surgery is an advanced aspect of orthodontic training based on complicated techniques requiring a multi-disciplinary team approach. I would like to attend Dr. Arnett's orthodontics and orthognathic surgery seminars to expand on my knowledge and diagnostic skills in planning orthognathic surgery cases.

As a growing scholar, I am grateful to the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation for their generosity and continuous support of orthodontic education. I would also like to thank our community's leaders for enabling these funds to reach young colleagues as exemplification on how a profession should support its growth by reaching for excellence in dental education and patient care.