



Biography: Mustafa Taskin, MD

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Dr. Mustafa Taskin is currently the honorary president of the Turkish Obesity Surgery Society and the pioneer of bariatric and metabolic surgery in Turkey. Dr. Mustafa Taskin was born in a rural village of Central Anatolia Yalnizagac (Kirsehir), Turkey, and received his MD degree from Istanbul University Cerrahpasa Medical Faculty in 1976. He first completed residency training in Anesthesiology in 1979 and then in Surgery in 1984.

Dr. Taskin then joined, as a staff surgeon, the general digestive and thoracic surgery department of Istanbul University Cerrahpasa Medical Faculty. Dr. Taskin also worked as a visiting fellow at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Department of Surgery, between 1989 and 1990. In 1990, shortly after he returned to Istanbul, Dr. Taskin became an associate professor of General Surgery. He started doing bariatric surgery in 1990 performing open VBG and Roux-en-Y gastric bypass in superobese patients. In 1993, Dr. Taskin participated in laparoscopic gastric banding workshops in Padua and Brussels and was among the first pioneers to place the band. After receiving training, Dr. Taskin started doing laparoscopic banding and VBG operations in his own department.

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Dr. Taskin has many research interests including the role of bariatric surgery in decreasing inflammation, the incorporation of a new endoscopic duodenal sleeve device called 3 M barrier, and ventilation mechanics during and after laparoscopic bariatric surgery. In addition, he recently obtained a patent for his device and is waiting for the in vivo test results.

Dr. Taskin founded the Turkish Obesity Surgery Society in 1999. In 2003, with the help of Dr. Mervyn Deitel, former Executive Director of IFSO, and Dr. John Melissas, the society joined IFSO. Also in 2003, Dr. Taskin organized the first symposium of bariatric surgery in Turkey. Only a few bariatric surgeons attended. However, in 2006, he was instrumental in holding the first proper congress in Turkey with international participation. Over the years, Dr. Taskin organized more than 25 national and international meetings in Turkey including live workshops and hands-on courses for the training of young surgeons. Additionally, he was the president of the IFSO World Congress in 2013 that was held in Istanbul and attracted more than 2000 attendees.

Dr. Taskin's involvement in bariatric education continued beyond the 2013 IFSO World Congress. Along with Prof. John Melissas and Prof. Luigi Angrassini, he was a co-founder of the MOSS (Mediterranean Obesity Surgery Summit) which held its first meeting in 2015 in Antalya. This initiative aims to bring all of the Mediterranean countries' IFSO members together to collaborate in research and the care of bariatric patients.

Dr. Taskin served as the president of the Turkish Obesity Surgery Society (TOSS) between 1999 and 2017 and was its president and founder. He was also the European representative on IFSO's general council. He is a member of the Editorial Board of Obesity Surgery Journal from 2002 to present. He continues to be an active member of IFSO, the Turkish Obesity Surgery Society (TOSS), the Turkish Surgical Society (TSS), and the European Association of Endoscopic Surgery (EAES).

Dr. Taskin has also been busy as an academic surgeon. He has operated on more than 6000 bariatric cases most of which were superobese patients. He has co-authored more than 120

peer-reviewed journal articles and has given over 200 national and international presentations.

Dr. Taskin lives with his wife, Ulku, in Istanbul. He has two adult children, Eren and Ulgen. His wife is a gynecologist, his daughter is an anesthesiologist, and his son is a bariatric surgeon. He has recently retired as an Emeritus Professor of Surgery from Istanbul University Cerrahpasa Medical

School and currently works part-time in his department on accreditation purposes and organizes bariatric workshops and hands-on courses for training young surgeons.

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