ISTANBUL AYDIN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF PHARMACY

E-NEWSLETTER

1 DECEMBER - 31 DECEMBER 2025

ISTANBUL AYDIN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF PHARMACY

DEPARTMENTS

Department of Pharmaceutical Technology

- Pharmaceutical Technology

Department of Professional Pharmaceutical Sciences

- Pharmacology
- Pharmaceutical Chemistry
- Pharmacognosy
- Pharmaceutical Toxicology

Department of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences

- Analytical Chemistry
- Biochemistry
- Pharmaceutical Microbiology

A Talk Program Was Held Within the Scope of the "Academy of Difference Makers"

The talk program organized within the scope of the "***Academy of Difference Makers***," led by our Dean, Prof. Dr. Ayşe Nurten ÖZDEMIR, was held on Monday, December 22, with the participation of **28th Term Member of Parliament Mr. Halis DALKILIÇ**.

In his speech, **Mr. Halis DALKILIÇ** shared his knowledge and experiences, providing insightful guidance for young participants. During the talk, important themes such as politics, leadership, and public service were discussed. Particular emphasis was placed on students' awareness of active citizenship, their social responsibilities, and the importance of perseverance, learning from mistakes, and progressing with determination. The event, which attracted great interest, inspired participants under the motto "Are you ready? Now it's your turn.

Our PharmAydın Club Held the Basic Hygiene and Social Interaction Program

Our PharmAydın Club organized the "***Basic Hygiene and Social Interaction Program***" on Wednesday, December 3, at GSD Education Foundation Bahçelievler Primary School. The awareness-raising program included basic hygiene training, social activities, balloon release, and face-painting events.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the PharmAydın Club students who organized the event, as well as to the esteemed and dedicated school administration who hosted us—particularly Principal Muhammet IŞIK, Guidance Counselors Melek HAFIZOĞLU and Rahime ATALAY, and Special Education Classroom Teacher Canan ÇOBAN.

The 2nd Academic Board Meeting of the Faculty of Pharmacy for the 2025–2026 Academic Year Was Held

The second Academic Board Meeting of the Faculty of Pharmacy for the year 2025 was held on December 15, 2025, at the T Block Court Hall. The meeting was attended by Istanbul Aydın University Rector Prof. Dr. İbrahim Hakkı Aydın, Vice Rectors Prof. Dr. Füsun Terzioğlu and Prof. Dr. İlkay Karaduman, as well as the academic staff of the Faculty of Pharmacy.

In his opening speech, Rector Prof. Dr. İbrahim Hakkı Aydın wished the academic staff a successful and productive academic year. Emphasizing that faculty members are the fundamental component of the university and the direct actors in education, he shared his evaluations on areas that could be further developed across the university. He also highlighted the importance of producing high-quality publications and projects to advance in international rankings such as the THE and QS Rankings, stating that the university administration will continue to support academic work throughout this process.

FACULTY OF PHARMACY

December

Applications Submitted for Thesis and Non-Thesis Master's Programs in Analytical Chemistry and Biochemistry

Our Faculty has officially submitted an application to the Council of Higher Education (YÖK) for the establishment of thesis and non-thesis master's programs in the **Departments of Analytical Chemistry** and **Biochemistry** under the Basic Sciences Division. Within this scope, the application process for the opening of these programs was completed on December 12, 2025. The aim is to introduce research-oriented graduate education opportunities with a strong academic infrastructure to our Institute and Faculty.

FACULTY OF PHARMACY

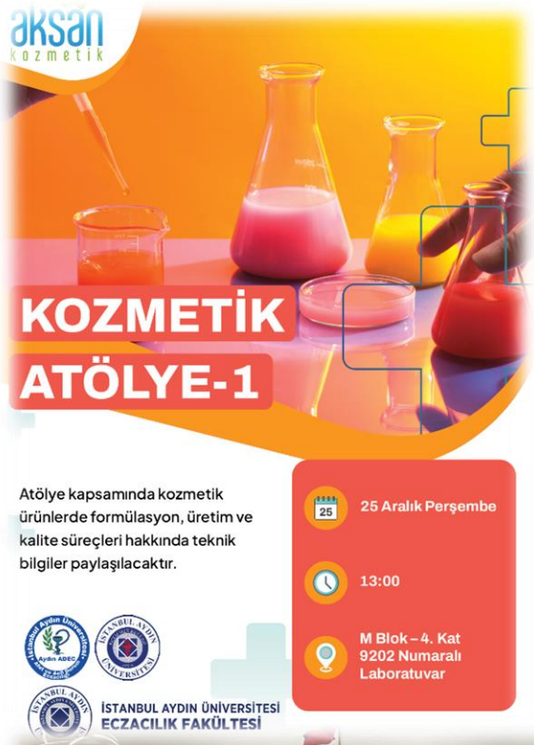
December

Internship I Information Meeting Held

An ***Internship I Information Meeting*** was organized by the Internship Committee on Friday, December 26 to help second-year students of the Faculty of Pharmacy Turkish Program prepare for their first internship period. The meeting was delivered by Internship Committee members Prof. Dr. Sevgi KARAKUŞ and Asst. Prof. Dr. Gizem Sena ELAGÖZ. The session covered the aim and scope of Internship I, the importance of the internship within pharmacy education, and its role in the graduation process. Students were also informed about their responsibilities during the internship, the total internship duration, and the general structure of internship periods. In addition, detailed information was shared on eligible internship institutions, the steps of the application process, required documents, rules to be followed during the internship, and the evaluation and examination procedures to be completed after the internship.

Our Faculty, Together with Pharm AYDIN and Aydın ADEC Clubs, Organized the Cosmetics Workshop I Event

On 26 December 2025, our Faculty, in collaboration with the student clubs Pharm AYDIN and Aydın ADEC, successfully held the "***Cosmetics Workshop I***" event with the valuable participation of Aksan Kozmetik. Aksan Kozmetik R&D Manager Melis AKGİL, R&D Specialist Begüm TURAN, and Assistant R&D Specialist Edanur TOKMAK joined the event as guest speakers and shared their knowledge and experience with our students. Within the scope of the workshop, a comprehensive presentation was delivered on formulation, production stages, and quality control processes of cosmetic products, whose importance is increasing day by day.



İstanbul Chamber of Pharmacists Youth Council Delegate Election Held

At our Faculty, the ***Istanbul Chamber of Pharmacists Youth Council delegate election*** was held in Classroom D-Block 2308 between 10:00–12:00, based on a secret ballot system. After the voting process was completed, the votes were openly counted, a formal report was prepared, and the winning candidates were announced. As a result of the election, our 2nd-year students from the Turkish Program of the Faculty of Pharmacy, Yağmur KAYA and Hüseyin KAPLAN, earned the right to represent our faculty as delegates of the Istanbul Chamber of Pharmacists Youth Council. We would like to thank Pharmacist Onur SAVAŞ and Pharmacist Ömer BAŞERDEM, who were assigned by the Istanbul Chamber of Pharmacists during the election process, as well as Asst. Prof. Dr. Gizem Sena ELAGÖZ, a member of our academic staff, for their contributions. We wish success to our students who will represent our faculty.

Prof. Dr. Avni ÇAKICI, faculty member of the Department of Pharmaceutical Toxicology, has co-authored an article entitled "***Investigation of the Chemical Composition, Aflatoxin Level, and Phenolic Profile of Hazelnut Skin***" which has been published in Journal of Food Science and Technology (Iran), an internationally recognized Q4-indexed journal.

JFST No. 168, Vol. 22, February2026 **ABSTRACT**

Journal of Food Science and Technology (Iran)

Homepage:www.fsct.modares.ir

Scientific Research

Investigation of the Chemical Composition, Aflatoxin Level, and Phenolic Profile of Hazelnut Skin

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ABSTRACT

Hazelnut skin is a thin brown coating surrounding the kernel that separates during roasting and is usually discarded as a by-product. However, it is rich in dietary fiber and bioactive compounds that vary by cultivar and region. In this study, the chemical composition and aflatoxin levels of hazelnut skins from Kocaeli and Ordu provinces in Türkiye were analyzed, with phenolic contents evaluated only for the Ordu sample. In the Kocaeli sample, dry matter, ash, fat, and protein contents were 91.07%, 2.14%, 12.94%, and 8.72%, respectively; whereas for the Ordu sample they were 95.38%, 1.90%, 26.55%, and 15.03%. Phenolic and lipid functional groups were indicated by infrared analysis. The phenolic profile showed that isoquercitrin (436.69 µg/g), catechin (270.77 µg/g), and quinic acid (231.64 µg/g) were the major compounds, while rutin (49.09 µg/g), hesperidin (20.46 µg/g), and quercetin (13.87 µg/g) were detected at moderate levels, including some low-abundance

Asst. Prof. Dr. Tuğçe TÜCCAR, faculty member of the Department of Pharmaceutical Microbiology has published an article entitled **"*Ontology study: harmonizing microbiologically influenced corrosion (MIC) terminology across disciplines*"** in npj Materials Degradation, a Q1-indexed journal.

npj Materials Degradation https://doi.org/10.1038/s41529-025-00716-1

Article in Press

Ontology study: harmonizing microbiologically influenced corrosion (MIC) terminology across disciplines

Received: 9 October 2025

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Tuğçe Tüccar, Judit Knisz, Richard Eckert & Torben Lund Skovhus

Asst. Prof. Dr. Cem ERKMEN, faculty member of the Department of Analytical Chemistry has published an article entitled "***The First Molecular-Scale View of Cabozantinib–Human Serum Albumin Binding: Quantitative Spectroscopic Insights***" in the International Journal of Advances in Engineering and Pure Sciences, a journal indexed in TR Dizin.

Int. J. Adv. Eng. Pure Sci. 2025, 37(4): <337-345>
DOI: 10.7240/jeps.1732487

RESEARCH ARTICLE / ARAŞTIRMA MAKALESİ

The First Molecular-Scale View of Cabozantinib–Human Serum Albumin Binding: Quantitative Spectroscopic Insights

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[2]*Istanbul Aydin University, Application and Research Center for Advanced Studies, Istanbul, Türkiye*

Abstract

This study aims to examine, for the first time, the interaction between the tyrosine kinase inhibitor cabozantinib (CAB) and human serum albumin (HSA), emphasizing the binding mechanism, affinity, and possible structural alterations by fluorescence spectroscopy. The association between CAB and HSA was predominantly explored through fluorescence spectroscopic analysis. To evaluate this interaction, a set of quenching measurements was systematically carried out by titrating increasing concentrations of CAB into a fixed concentration of HSA solution. Temperature-dependent measurements were also conducted to analyze the quenching mechanism and to calculate thermodynamic parameters. Stern-Volmer analysis, as well as double logarithmic fitting, were used to evaluate the quenching behavior and binding affinity. The progressive decrease of HSA's native fluorescence upon incremental addition of CAB concentrations indicated the formation of the CAB-HSA complex. A noticeable reduction in Stern-Volmer quenching constants (K_{SV}) was recorded as the temperature increased, suggesting a static quenching mechanism. Binding constants (K_a) were found to be in the order of 10^4 M^{-1}, pointing to a relatively intermediate affinity between CAB and HSA, compatible with its transport in blood plasma. The spontaneity of the binding was supported by thermodynamic data, highlighting hydrophobic interactions as the principal contributor, in combination with hydrogen bonding and weak van der Waals attractions. In addition, no shifts in emission maxima and significant fluorescence quenching around tryptophan and tyrosine residues indicated microenvironmental perturbations, suggesting localized conformational changes in the protein structure upon CAB binding.

Keywords: Cabozantinib, Fluorescence spectroscopy, Human serum albumin, Interaction studies, UV-Vis spectroscopy

Prof. Dr. Fikriye URAS, a faculty member of the Department of Biochemistry delivered an oral presentation entitled **"*International Standards and Guidelines Shaping Environmental Sustainability in the Healthcare Sector*"** at the 16th International Congress on Health and Hospital Management, held on December 3–6, 2025.

SAĞLIK AKADEMİSYENLERİ DERNEĞİ

16. HSYK'25

UNC PEMBROKE
UNC-P
PEMBROKE UNIVERSITY

Kongre Katılım Sertifikası

Sayın, **PROF. DR. FİKRİYE URAS,**

03-06 Aralık 2025 tarihleri arasında **Royal Wings Hotel, Lara, Antalya/Türkiye'**de gerçekleşen **16.Uluslararası Sağlık ve Hastane Yönetimi Kongresi'** ne katılım sağlamıştır.

Kongre Başkanı;
Prof. Dr. Seval AKGÜN
Sağlık Akademisyenleri Derneği Başkanı,
Başkent Üniversitesi Hastaneleri ve Bağlı Sağlık Kuruluşları
Kalite, Akreditasyon, İş Sağlığı ve Güvenliği
ve Çevre Sağlığı Birimleri Direktörü,**TÜRKİYE**
Misafir Profesör,UNC-P Pembroke Kuzey Carolina Üniversitesi
Dekan, St. Thomas Üniversitesi Sağlık Bilimleri Fakültesi, **ABD**

SAĞLIK AKADEMİSYENLERİ DERNEĞİ
06-0851 77
ANKARA

Kongre Eş-Başkanı
Prof. Dr. Allen MEADORS
Şansölye ve Emekli Profesör
UNC-P Kuzey Karolina Pembroke Üniversitesi
Kurucu Rektör, **ABD**

Asst. Prof. Dr. Cem ERKMEN, a faculty member of the Department of Analytical Chemistry, delivered an oral presentation entitled "***Screen-Printed Carbon Electrode Integrated with Feather-like Au–Ag–Co Trimetallic Composite: An Advanced Sensor for Electrochemical Determination of Sertraline HCl***" at the 8th International Eurasian Conference on Biological and Chemical Science, held on December 17–19, 2025.

8th International Eurasian Conference on Biological and Chemical Sciences (EurasianBioChem 2025) December 17-19, 2025.
www.EurasianBioChem.org

ORAL PRESENTATION

Screen-printed carbon electrode integrated with feather-like Au-Ag-Co trimetallic composite: An advanced sensor for electrochemical determination of sertraline HCl

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Abstract

A highly sensitive and reliable electrochemical sensor was developed for the quantitative determination of the antidepressant drug sertraline HCl (SRT) using a novel screen-printed carbon electrode (SPCE) modified with feather-like Au-Ag-Co trimetallic structures (Au-Ag-Co/SPCE). The trimetallic interface was synthesized by electrochemically to synergistically exploit the outstanding electrical conductivity of Au and Ag together with the catalytic capability of Co, resulting in a superior electron-transfer platform. The morphological and structural features of the materials were thoroughly characterized by SEM, EDX, XRD, and AFM analyses, confirming their homogeneous decoration and well-defined porous structure on the SPCE surface. The electrochemical behavior was investigated using cyclic voltammetry and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy, demonstrating substantially decreased charge-transfer resistance and enhanced redox kinetics after Au-Ag-Co modification. The sensing performance toward SRT HCl was systematically optimized by evaluating the effects of pH, scan rate, accumulation potential, and accumulation time. Differential pulse voltammetry and adsorptive stripping differential pulse voltammetry revealed a strong electrocatalytic response with significantly amplified oxidation currents on Au-Ag-Co/SPCE compared with the bare SPCE. Under optimized conditions, the sensor exhibited a wide linear detection range extending from 2.0×10^{-7} to 2.0×10^{-4} M with two well-defined calibration regions and achieved a remarkably low detection limit suitable for trace-level monitoring. The applicability of the sensor was validated through the analysis of pharmaceutical tablets and spiked human serum samples. High recoveries (97–104%) and low relative standard deviations (<6%) confirmed excellent accuracy, precision, and matrix tolerance. These findings highlight that the Au-Ag-Co/SPCE platform provides rapid analysis, low-cost fabrication, and strong analytical performance, making it a promising candidate for routine quality control, clinical monitoring, and point-of-care testing of sertraline.

Keywords: Sertraline, electrochemical sensor, Au-Ag-Co trimetallic materials, screen-printed carbon electrode, adsorptive stripping voltammetry

Asst. Prof. Dr. Tuğçe TÜCCAR, a faculty member of the Department of Pharmaceutical Microbiology, delivered an oral presentation entitled "***Postbiotics as Potential Therapeutic Agents for Noncommunicable Diseases***" at the 8th International Eurasian Conference on Biological and Chemical Science, held on December 17–19, 2025.

8th International Eurasian Conference on Biological and Chemical Sciences (EurasianBioChem 2025) December 17-19, 2025.
www.EurasianBioChem.org

ORAL PRESENTATION

Postbiotics as potential therapeutic agents for noncommunicable diseases

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Abstract

Microorganisms residing in the human gut microbiota establish symbiotic interactions with their host and contribute to the regulation of numerous physiological processes, including digestion, immune modulation, and the maintenance of intestinal barrier integrity. The therapeutic effects of these living microbes, known as probiotics, on human health have been widely recognized, leading to the development of targeted probiotic formulations in various dosage forms within the pharmaceutical sector and their incorporation into clinical practice. Recently, the concept of postbiotics, defined as inactivated microbial cells, their components, and metabolites produced by microorganisms, has attracted growing interest and has emerged as a promising focus for research and applications, particularly in the pharmaceutical industry. Compared with probiotics, postbiotics offer advantages such as greater shelf-life stability, improved convenience in storage and formulation, and a lower risk of adverse effects while still providing health-promoting benefits for both adults and children. Beyond their antimicrobial properties, postbiotics are increasingly considered as promising therapeutic candidates for a variety of noncommunicable diseases. In this regard, this study aims to provide a concise overview of the classification, production technologies, and mechanisms of action of different postbiotics, and to present their biological activities reported in *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies, thereby highlighting their potential as novel functional agents in the management of chronic diseases.

Keywords: Postbiotics, Noncommunicable diseases, Therapeutic agents

Asst. Prof. Dr. Merve Yasemin ALTINTAŞ, a faculty member of the Department of Pharmacognosy, delivered an oral presentation entitled **"*The Regulatory Role of Resveratrol on the FOXP3 Gene*"** at the 8th International Eurasian Conference on Biological and Chemical Science, held on December 17–19, 2025. The full text of the presentation was published in the conference proceedings book.

8th International Eurasian Conference on Biological and Chemical Sciences (EurasianBioChem 2025) December 17-19, 2025.
www.EurasianBioChem.org

ORAL PRESENTATION

Resveratrol'ün FOXP3 Geni Üzerindeki Düzenleyici Rolü

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Özet

Bu çalışma, resveratrolün FOXP3 geni üzerindeki potansiyel etkilerini değerlendirmeyi amaçlamaktadır. FOXP3, düzenleyici T (Treg) hücre fonksiyonunun temel belirleyicisidir. Resveratrol (RSV), özellikle üzüm kabuğu, çekirdeği ve kırmızı meyveler gibi çeşitli bitkisel kaynaklarda bulunan doğal bir polifenoldür. Antioksidan, antikanser, antiinflamatuar ve immünomodülatör özellikleri sayesinde biyolojik olarak aktiftir. RSV, eikosanoid üretimi, oksidatif stres yanıtları ve mTOR, STAT3, AhR gibi sinyal yolaklarını modüle ederek bağışıklık sistemi üzerinde çok yönlü düzenleyici etkiler gösterir.

FOXP3, Treg hücrelerinin gelişimi ve immünosupresif fonksiyonu için kritik bir transkripsiyon faktörüdür. Çalışmalar, RSV'nin FOXP3 ekspresyonunu ve stabilitesini doğrudan veya dolaylı olarak etkileyebildiğini göstermektedir. Farklı deneysel modellerde resveratrol uygulamasının FOXP3$^+$ Treg hücre sayısını artırdığı, Treg/Th17 dengesini Treg lehine kaydırdığı, proinflamatuar sitokin seviyelerini azalttığı ve FOXP3 lokusundaki düzenleyici bölgeleri epigenetik olarak modüle ettiği bildirilmiştir. Obezite ve metabolik sendrom modellerinde RSV'nin SIRT1 aracılığıyla FOXP3 ekspresyonunu koruduğu ve inflamasyonu azalttığı gösterilmiştir. Astım ve otoimmün hastalık modellerinde ise RSV'nin miR-34a'yı baskılayarak FOXP3 aktivitesini artırdığı ve AhR/Notch1 aksını inhibe ederek Treg farklılaşmasını desteklediği bulunmuştur.

Kanser modellerinde RSV'nin etkileri daha karmaşıktır. Hepatoselüler karsinomda resveratrol, immünosupresif CD8$^+$CD122$^+$ Treg alt kümelerini azaltmış ve IFN-γ üreten CD8$^+$ T hücrelerini artırarak antitümör yanıtları güçlendirmiştir. Ayrıca TGF-β1 ve IL-10 gibi immünosupresif sitokinler azalırken, TNF-α ve IFN-γ gibi antitümör sitokinler artmıştır. Sınırlı klinik çalışmalar da resveratrolün Treg ve γδ T hücre popülasyonlarını artırdığını, proinflamatuar sitokinleri azalttığını ve antioksidan kapasiteyi yükselttiğini göstermektedir.

Sonuç olarak, resveratrol FOXP3 ve Treg fonksiyonlarını düzenleyerek otoimmün ve metabolik hastalıklarda immün dengenin korunmasına katkı sağlamakta, immünosupresif tümör mikroçevresini modüle ederek antitümör yanıtları güçlendirmektedir. Bu bulgular, resveratrolün FOXP3 ve Treg modülasyonu üzerinden potansiyel antikarsinojenik etkileri olan değerli bir molekül olduğunu göstermektedir. Ancak, uzun dönem etkileri ve optimal dozun belirlenmesi için daha kapsamlı preklinik ve klinik çalışmalara ihtiyaç vardır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Resveratrol, FOXP3, Düzenleyici T hücreleri (Treg), İmmün modülasyon, Antikanser etkiler.

FACULTY OF PHARMACY

December

Prof. Dr. Sevgi KARAKUŞ Wore Her Gown at the Istanbul Aydın University Professorship Gown Ceremony

A "***Professorship Gown Ceremony***" was held on 23 December 2025 in the T Block Purple Hall for the faculty members who earned the title of professor as a result of the appointment and promotion process during the 2024–2025 academic year.

At the ceremony, the gown of our Vice Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, **Prof. Dr. Sevgi KARAKUŞ**, was put on her by **Elif AYDIN**, Vice Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Anatolian Education and Culture Foundation (AKEV). Prof. Karakuş's professorship certificate was presented to her by **İsmail GÜLLE**, President of the Turkish Exporters Assembly (TİM). We congratulate Prof. Dr. Sevgi KARAKUŞ on her new academic title and wish her continued success in her academic career.

Talk Program Held within the Scope of the "Academy of Difference Makers"

The fourth talk event organized within the scope of the "***Academy of Difference Makers***" led by our Dean, Prof. Dr. Ayşe Nurten ÖZDEMIR, was held on Tuesday, December 30, with the participation of Ahmet Misbah DEMIRCAN, Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to Tunisia.

In this talk delivered under the theme "***What Awaits Us in the Future?***", Ambassador DEMIRCAN highlighted the significance of artificial intelligence in today's world and the future. He addressed the major transformations awaiting humanity and discussed how individuals can correctly interpret and adapt to this process, offering insightful perspectives to the participants. The event attracted strong student interest, and the questions raised by the students clearly demonstrated the relevance of the topic and the success of the program in achieving its objectives.