

## Professional Bio

Saffet Dilek has an outstanding and well-established career as a full Professor of Gynecologic Oncology. Precisely, the last three decades of his career as a doctor have been spent publishing dozens of academic pieces and practicing innumerable surgeries on cervical cancer.

Aksaray, one of the tiny towns in the Anatolian midlands, was where Prof. Dilek was born (1951) and lived until 1970 when he found his way to one of the most prestigious medical schools in Turkey: Medical School of Ankara. The third son of a family with no means to afford the expenses of medical school; Dilek had to seek and obtain a scholarship from Turkish military as early as the first year of his time in Ankara. After his graduation from Ankara University (1976) and having spent another year in the newly founded Gulhane Military Academy of Medicine (GATA), he was stationed as a young doctor and officer in the city of Diyarbakir—the farthest corner of Turkey to the east. Upon his return from Diyarbakir, now a captain and father of two, he obtained the privilege of starting specialty training in GATA as an Assistant Professor of Gynecologic Oncology—a rare opportunity then granted to few military doctors. Four years later, in 1988, the dean of the medical faculty provided him with another opportunity: he was to spend another two years as a visiting medical doctor in St. Thomas Hospital of London which was then and is still now one of the pioneering global institutions training on new methods and approaches to cervical cancer.

He was awarded the position of Associate Professor in 1989 and that of full Professor in 1995. Six years later, in 2001, after a two-decade career as a military doctor and academic he resigned from the Turkish military at the age of fifty. He did not quit academia though but, instead, continued his career at one of the civilian universities in Mersin where he, as the head of the Gynecology Department, trained new doctors and published many more scientific works from 2002 to 2012. From then he has worked in various private clinics helping his patients as one of the most accomplished doctors of Gynecologic Cervical Cancers.