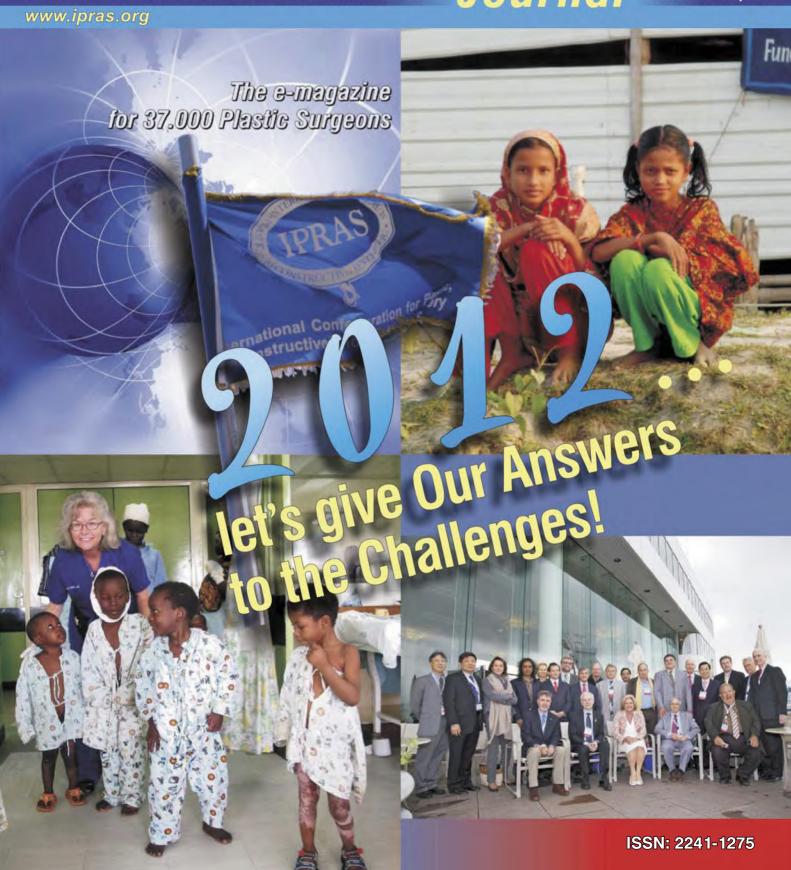


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RISING STAR

An interview with Dr. Bouraoui Kotti



Dr. Biggs: Congratulations on being chosen as our RISING STAR for this issue of the IPRAS Journal. As you know, we select someone under the age of 45, who has shown great promise in their pursuit of excellence in Plastic Surgery. Tell the readers a bit about yourself. Begin by telling us your background and your education.

Dr. Kotti: I was born in 1977 in Tunisia, a country of 11 million people and 80 plastic surgeons. My primary education was undertaken there, as well as my medical education. I graduated in June, 2000, from the Medical School of Tunis and followed that by a broad medical/ surgical internship for one year.

From 2002 to 2006 I did a residency in Plastic Surgery and completed a dissertation on "Plastic Surgery for the Management of Pressure Sores". I graduated Summa Cum Laude from the Tunisian Public Health Department and the Tunisian Higher Education, Scientific research and Technology Department in Plastic Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery (October 2007) and made the decision to move to France, where I continued my studies. I worked in Nice and Paris in services including breast reconstruction, maxillofacial surgery, head and neck surgery, and general Plastic Surgery, including Aesthetic Surgery. I spent most of last year (to February, 2009) with Dr. Claude Lassus in Nice. My studies and work in France allowed me to be Certified from the French College of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (November 2007) and, in May 2008, by the European Board of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery.

Dr Biggs: And then you returned to Tunisia?

Dr. Kotti: Yes, and in 2009 I joined the "Salah Azaiz" institute (an anti-cancer centre) and have become Head

of the unit of Plastic Surgery in the Surgery Department.

Dr. Biggs: What Societies do you belong to?

Dr. Kotti: Tunisian Society of Plastic, Reconstructive, Maxillofacial, and Aesthetic Surgery (STCPRMFE), ASPS, SOFCPRE, and ISAPS of which I'm National Secretary.

Dr. Biggs: I looked over your list of publications and presentations, over twenty in all, and fifteen posters. I noticed you have run the table on topics from digital reattachment to abdominoplasty and blepharoplasty, breast reduction and reconstruction, to extensive maxillofacial reconstructions, and to burns. That's a lot of production for a young man and very impressive.

Dr. Kotti: And there is a lot more to do

Dr. Biggs: Tell me about that. What do you predict and where do you see yourself in five years?

Dr. Kotti: I see myself still in pursuit of better ways to do more for people. My interest lies more in reconstruction, but with an increased attention to its aesthetic aspects. My great hope is that the political situation in Tunisia will be such, that I can expand my research capabilities and impart progress made there into clinical applications.

Dr Biggs: Thank you Dr. Kotti. Your great hope is shared by members of our Plastic Surgery family around the globe and this is why I so often say that "the bonds that unite us are greater than the borders, boundaries, and languages that divide us"

Again, congratulations on being chosen our "RISING STAR".

