

Asst. Prof. Ufuk Utku Göktuğ, MD

Lead, BAU HTA

Assistant Professor of General Surgery, Bahçeşehir University Faculty of Medicine (BAU MED)

Portfolio: Surgical and Procedural Technologies

Asst. Prof. Ufuk Utku Göktuğ is a general surgeon and clinical academic whose work brings a strong surgical, procedural, and hospital-based clinical perspective to **BAU HTA — Bahçeşehir University Health Technology Assessment Platform**. As **Lead for Surgical and Procedural Technologies**, he contributes to BAU HTA's capacity to evaluate health technologies not only through economic and policy lenses, but also through clinical relevance, procedural feasibility, patient outcomes, safety, implementation, and real-world use in healthcare settings.

Dr. Göktuğ completed his medical education at **Ankara University Faculty of Medicine** and his medical specialization in **General Surgery** at the same institution. His specialization thesis focused on serum VEGF-C, VEGF-D, and VEGFR-3 levels in breast cancer patients and their association with lymphangiogenesis and lymph node metastasis, reflecting an early academic interest in cancer biology, surgical oncology, and clinically relevant translational research.

Following his residency, Dr. Göktuğ served as an **Attending Surgeon** at the Ministry of Health / Health Sciences University Ankara Numune Training and Research Hospital. He later completed an **Intensive Care Specialty Fellowship** at Gazi University Faculty of Medicine and worked as a **Liver Transplant Surgeon** at Yeditepe University Faculty of Medicine. Since April 2022, he has served as an **Attending Surgeon at Bahçeşehir University Medical Park Göztepe Hospital**.

His clinical and academic background is particularly relevant to BAU HTA's work on **surgical procedures, hospital-based technologies, procedural innovation, medical devices, minimally invasive techniques, clinical pathways, and outcomes-focused evaluation**. Within an HTA platform, this perspective is important because many health technologies are not limited to pharmaceuticals; they also include procedures, devices, diagnostics, surgical innovations, hospital technologies, and care-delivery models that require careful assessment of clinical benefit, operational feasibility, training needs, patient selection, resource use, and implementation conditions.

Dr. Göktuğ's scientific work includes peer-reviewed international publications on topics such as **video-assisted and endoscopic treatment of pilonidal disease, laparoscopy**

in pancreatic cancer, groin hernia, gastric cancer surgery, thyroid nodules, diabetic foot complications, and thyroid disorders. His publications have appeared in journals including *BMJ Case Reports*, *Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica*, *Annali Italiani di Chirurgia*, *Diseases of the Colon & Rectum*, and other surgical journals.

He has also contributed to international and national scientific meetings in fields related to surgical oncology, hepatopancreatobiliary surgery, colorectal surgery, breast cancer, pancreatic surgery, liver surgery, pilonidal sinus treatment, and advanced surgical procedures. His international conference contributions include presentations at meetings such as the **European Society for Medical Oncology**, **European Society of Coloproctology**, **American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons**, and the **World Congress of the International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association**.

Dr. Göktuğ's professional development includes a **Turkish Surgical Association Board Proficiency Certificate**, a **Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Certificate**, and training in thyroid cancer surgery, minimally invasive pancreatic cancer surgery, advanced colorectal procedures, and robotic-laparoscopic surgery. These qualifications support his role in BAU HTA as a clinically grounded contributor to the assessment of procedural technologies and innovation in surgical care.

He is a member of several professional societies, including the **Turkish Surgical Association**, **Turkish Society of Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Surgery**, **Turkish Society of Colon and Rectal Surgery**, **Bariatrics and Metabolic Surgery Association**, and **International Society of Liver Surgeons**. These memberships reflect his engagement with professional communities relevant to general surgery, hepatopancreatobiliary surgery, colorectal surgery, bariatric and metabolic surgery, and liver surgery.

Within BAU HTA, Dr. Göktuğ strengthens the platform's interdisciplinary model by connecting surgical expertise with evidence-informed decision-making. His role is especially valuable for projects involving **medical devices, procedural technologies, hospital-based innovations, surgical outcomes, clinical implementation, and value assessment of non-pharmaceutical health technologies**. By contributing a specialist clinician's perspective, he helps ensure that BAU HTA's work remains clinically meaningful, operationally realistic, and relevant to real healthcare delivery.

Through his role in BAU HTA, Dr. Göktuğ supports the platform's broader mission to advance **education, research, advisory work, capacity building, and regional collaboration** in health technology assessment, health economics and outcomes research, market access, and value-based healthcare. His clinical background adds an essential dimension to BAU HTA's ability to assess health innovation across pharmaceuticals, medical devices, biotechnology products, surgical procedures, and healthcare delivery models.