Ihsan Yüksel

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EDUCATION

North Carolina State University — Raleigh, NC

- *Master of Physiology* — *May 2026*
- 4.00/4.00 GPA

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill — Chapel Hill, NC

- *Bachelor of Science in Biology, Minors in Chemistry and Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies* — *May 2022*
- 3.39/4.00 GPA

WORK EXPERIENCE

UNC-Chapel Hill Hospital Department of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology — Chapel Hill, NC
Research Assistant — *August 2019 – May 2022*

- Produced detailed patient history summaries while maintaining HIPAA compliance.
- Consolidated and analyzed clinical trial funding and patient data, improving quality of care.

Carolina Clinical Services — Durham, NC
Site Lead & Medical Assistant — *November 2020 – January 2022*

- Performed patient vitals, COVID-19 testing and maintained accurate medical records.
- Trained and managed 10+ staff and volunteers across multiple clinic locations, including shelters for the homeless.
- Ensured appropriate and adequate medical supplies for shifts, enhancing operational efficiency.
- Collaborated with physicians, nurse practitioners, and other healthcare professionals to deliver high-quality patient care.

UNC Department of Pharmacology (Graves Lab) — Chapel Hill, NC
Research Assistant — *May 2021 – October 2021*

- Investigated the effects of novel drugs ONC201 and TR57 on cancer cell proliferation and mitochondrial function.
- Prepared SDS-PAGE gels for western blotting, managed lab equipment sterilization, and maintained reagent inventory.

LEADERSHIP & ACTIVITIES

Muslim Cancer Support — Raleigh, NC
Founder & President — *September 2023 – Present*

- Established a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to support Muslims affected by cancer.
- Distributed educational resources at local mosques, online, and via social media.

- Raised $500+ for critical oncology care for patients in Syria.

UNC Carolina Cancer Association Chapel Hill, NC
Fundraising Executive Board Member *January 2020 – May 2022*

- Raised awareness for cancer initiatives through on-campus events.
- Organized 10+ fundraisers, raising over $15,000 for cancer research and related non-profits.

UNC Carolina Pediatric Attention Love and Support (CPALS) Chapel Hill, NC
Member *August 2018 – May 2022*

- Provided companionship and psychosocial support to teenage cancer patients.
- Developed individualized support plans with the healthcare team and provided patient updates.

UNC Muslim Student Association Chapel Hill, NC
Member *August 2018 – May 2022*

- Participated in numerous volunteering and networking opportunities.
- Mentored two new first-year students annually, offering academic and personal guidance.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Al-Noor Islamic Center Fuquay-Varina, NC
Youth Group Volunteer *November 2022 – Present*

- Facilitated activities promoting personal growth for middle and high school students.
- Mentored youth, listened to their concerns without judgement, and provided advice and emotional support.

UNC-Chapel Hill Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Cancer Program Chapel Hill, NC
Advisory Board Member *December 2019 – Present*

- Provided guidance on designing the new AYA infusion space to better meet patient needs.
- Contributed strategic insight to expand patient resources and enhance the overall patient experience.

UNC-Chapel Hill Hospital Pediatric Playroom Chapel Hill, NC
Hospital Volunteer *January 2020 – March 2022*

- Completed 117 hours of volunteering in pediatric units, creating a positive and engaging environment for patients to learn and play.

PUBLICATIONS

Under review: Chouffani El Fassi, S., **Yüksel, I.**, Khan, T. et al. "Computer Algorithms to Optimize Organ Donation After Circulatory Death (DCD)".

Acknowledged in: Chouffani El Fassi, S., Abdullah, A., Fang, Y. et al. Not all AI health tools with regulatory authorization are clinically validated. Nat Med 30, 2718–2720 (2024). https://www.nature.com/articles/s41591-024-03203-3

AWARDS

Eastern Cardiothoracic Surgical Society - Best Oral Presentation Naples, FL
September 2024

Our research team's oral presentation of "Computer Algorithms to Optimize Organ Donation After Circulatory Death (DCD)" honored as best project at the ECTSS surgical conference in Naples, FL

Cancer for College Scholarship San Diego, CA
August 2021 & 2023

Awarded to students demonstrating academic excellence and community impact.

Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Nurses NC Chapter Scholarship Chapel Hill, NC
August 2018

Recognizes former pediatric hematology-oncology patients pursuing higher education.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Technical Skills: Certified Nurse Aide I|ScribeAmerica Certification|Basic Life Support Certification|Microsoft Office Suite
Language Skills: Intermediate Malay|Beginner Arabic, Spanish, Turkish
Soft Skills: Leadership|Team Collaboration|Data Management |Personable Care