

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine Announces the Recipient of the ACMG Foundation Carolyn Mills Lovell Award at the 2016 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting in Tampa, Florida

BETHESDA, MD – **March 11, 2016** | Gozde Akgumus, MS, LCGC was honored as the recipient of the **ACMG Foundation Carolyn Mills Lovell Award** at the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) 2016 Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting in Tampa, Florida.

Ms. Akgumus was selected to receive the award for her poster presentation, "Mosaic Monosomy 7: A New Syndrome with Increased Risk of Hematologic Disease."

Ms. Akgumus completed her Master of Science in Genetic Counseling at Arcadia University located in Glenside, Pennsylvania. Currently, she is a genetic counselor for the Division of Genomic Diagnostics at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia where she specializes in cancer diagnostics, and works closely with genetic counselors, physicians, and clients within and outside the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

The Carolyn Mills Lovell Award was made possible by a generous donation by ACMG Medical Director David Flannery, MD, FAAP, FACMG to honor genetic counselor Carolyn Mills Lovell, MAT, MS, CGC. Dr. Flannery worked with Carolyn Mills Lovell for over 15 years while he was at the Medical College of Georgia (MCG), now Augusta University, and he also wanted to recognize the contributions and accomplishments of genetic counselors to ACMG through this award. This award includes a cash prize of \$1000 and is presented to one recipient annually through 2025. The recipient is chosen based on the highest rated abstract submitted by a Genetic Counselor to the ACMG Annual Meeting.

ACMG Foundation President Bruce R. Korf, MD, PhD, FACMG said, "It is exciting to see the ACMG Foundation offer an award intended specifically for genetic counselors. Genetic counselors are integral members of the genetics care team and their role is expanding in this era of genomic medicine. I am very pleased to see the contribution of genetic counselors recognized through this award."

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"I am extremely honored and humbled to become the second recipient of the Carolyn Mills Lovell Award. In this era of genomic medicine, genetic counselors are integral members of the healthcare team. This award helps recognize the contributions of laboratory genetic counselors to patient care and genomic research," said Ms. Akgumus.

"I wanted to help recognize genetic counselors who play a huge role in clinical genetic services and felt that this award would help with that and also honor Carolyn, who has always provided exemplary services to families, students and residents at MCG," said ACMG Medical Director David Flannery, MD, FAAP, FACMG.

The ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is a community of supporters and contributors who understand the importance of medical genetics in healthcare. Established in 1992, the ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine supports the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics; mission to "translate genes into health" by raising funds to attract the next generation of medical geneticists and genetic counselors, to sponsor important research, to promote information about medical genetics, and much more.

To learn more about the important mission and projects of the ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine and how you too can support this great cause, please visit <a href="www.acmgfoundation.org">www.acmgfoundation.org</a> or contact us at <a href="acmgf@acmgfoundation.org">acmgf@acmgfoundation.org</a> or 301-718-2014.

*Note to editors:* To arrange interviews with experts in medical genetics, contact Kathy Beal, MBA, ACMG Director of Public Relations at kbeal@acmg.net or 301-238-4582.

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