



Dr. Gülay GÜLEK

Dr. Gülay Gülek is a healthcare professional and academic with over 30 years of experience, specializing in nursing, neurosurgical intensive care, acute care practices, and clinical research. Prior to completing her undergraduate studies in Nursing (1991–1996), she served as a nurse in the Neurosurgery Department of Ankara Numune Hospital for five years, where she built the foundations of her clinical practice on intensive patient care, trauma management, and postoperative monitoring. Following her relocation to the United States after graduation, Gülek completed her language training, obtained her nursing licensure, and has served as a registered nurse in various clinical departments since 1999. In 2004, she earned her master’s degree and the title of Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNP), beginning her career as a specialist practitioner in neurosurgical clinics and wards. Between 2010 and 2023, Gülek served as an ACNP at the University of Washington Harborview Medical Centre’s Neurosurgical Intensive Care Unit. In this role, she undertook advanced clinical responsibilities in the management of severe trauma, cerebral haemorrhage, complex neurological cases, and surgical intensive care patients. Her tenure included active roles in-patient admissions, detailed clinical examinations, prescribing medications, interpreting laboratory and radiological imaging, coordinating consultations, managing discharge processes, and participating in unit-based quality improvement initiatives. Additionally, she held critical responsibilities such as organizing family meetings and developing multidisciplinary care models. Gülek completed her doctoral degree in 2021 and was subsequently awarded the title of doctorate. She has made significant academic contributions to neurosurgical nursing, clinical care models, acute care protocols, and innovative approaches to neurological diseases. She currently serves as a principal investigator in medical device development and clinical integration, conducting research on new technologies—particularly smartphone-based pupillometry applications—for the diagnosis and treatment of neurological patients. Her professional development is supported by prestigious certifications, including the University of Washington’s Clinical Trials program (2024) and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health’s Leadership in Public Health certificate (2025). Furthermore, she has undertaken academic responsibilities such as serving on ethics committees, providing thesis supervision, applying for research grants, and teaching postgraduate courses. As a member of the Medical Advisory Board of the non-profit Joe Niekro Foundation, she

provides support to patients and families affected by aneurysm-related brain haemorrhages. She is a permanent member of the Nursing Executive Board (NEB) at the University of Washington Medical Centre, contributing to institutional policy and quality processes, and is the founding chair of the hospital's Advanced Practice Providers (APPs) Council. As the President of the Global Neuroscience Nurses Council (WFNS), she conducts active work in national and international health policies, equitable access to neurological care, and global brain health. She also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees at Istanbul Bilgi University. Gülay Gülek is a globally recognized healthcare leader who masterfully combines clinical expertise with academic productivity in the fields of neurosurgical nursing and acute care.