

My name is Alper Kaya, a medical doctor and volunteer at ALS/MND Association Turkey.

I stand before you today with deep gratitude and a humble heart. As a person living with ALS for over three decades, I am acutely aware of the challenges and the journey that this condition entails. Each day, each moment, is a testament to resilience and the human spirit's ability to endure.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to every one of you gathered here, dedicated scientists, researchers, caregivers, and fellow patients. Your tireless efforts in the field of ALS research and treatment have not only advanced our understanding but have also provided hope to countless individuals and families affected by this relentless disease.

My journey, while unique in its longevity, is but one story among many. Each person living with ALS has a narrative of courage, strength, and determination. It is together, united in our quest for answers and solutions, that we can truly make a difference.

In the face of adversity, we find solidarity, in the midst of uncertainty, we discover hope. And in the heart of every challenge, we uncover the resilience of the human spirit.

Thank you, from the depths of my soul, for your unwavering commitment and dedication to the ALS community. Together, let us continue to strive for a future where ALS is not a sentence, but a challenge we have overcome.

If a treatment could enable long-term survival for classical ALS patients, it would be a monumental leap for humanity. I mean, if a gene-modifying therapy capable of enabling long-term survival, like mine, for fast-progressing ALS patients, this would represent a significant advancement for humanity.

Thank you,

Alper Kaya, MD