Los Angeles is brimming with many of the nation’s best health care practitioners and centers of excellence. We’ve selected a sampling of some of the very best and most outstanding physicians to create our collection of the Top Doctors for 2021.

For our Los Angeles’ Top Doctors profiles this year, we analyzed each of the many nominations received and selected outstanding medical professionals from almost 20 specialties of focus: Cardiology, Colon & Rectal, Dermatology, Emergency Medicine, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, General Surgery, Infectious Disease, Internal Medicine, Neurology, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Oncology, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Otolaryngology, Pediatrics, Plastic/Reconstruction, Pulmonology and Radiology. Doctors were selected based on their good standing, reputation, thought leadership and success here in Los Angeles and our arranged here alphabetically by specialty.
Letter from the Publisher

This past year, with the continuing COVID-19 crisis and all its accompanying challenges, our doctors have been forced to step up to enormous new challenges. Whether specializing in the treatment of infectious diseases or otherwise, it has been our doctors on the front lines making pivots and adjustments to their routines and their methods of delivering care – all while maintaining their commitment to a gold standard of treatment.

On the preventive side as well, it is the health care providers who serve as our all-hours “trusted advisors” for our bodies and overall physical and mental well-being. It’s hard to think of more important guidance than that received from our doctors.

The Los Angeles region is brimming with many of the best doctors in the country and the world. Indeed, there are so many great doctors here, it makes it tough to select the very best providers to profile in these pages.

We’re proud to present you with our selections – chosen from hundreds of nominations – and congratulate those excellent physicians and care practitioners who made this year’s class of 2021 Top Doctors. By maintaining the physical health of our people – during a pandemic or otherwise – they are making a difference and helping to make our community of businesses thrive.

Congratulations – and thank you – to all the great physicians who made this class and who play such an integral role in our lives and the lives of our families, friends and colleagues – now more than ever.

Best regards,

Josh Schimmels
Publisher & CEO

Los Angeles Business Journal

Health Care Spotlight

Align your business with our extensive Health Care portfolio

The Los Angeles Business Journal continues to recognize the important role the health care industry has played in providing the best medical care to our affluent readers, LA is home to so many world-class medical treatment and research centers and our readers are fortunate to have access to such exceptional care and choices. We are committed to educating our readers so they can be informed and lead healthier lives.

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At City of Hope, our unique expertise in infection prevention and control makes us one of the safest places to be if you have cancer today. As one of the leading cancer research and treatment centers in the country, we have decades of experience treating patients with compromised immune systems. So in these challenging times, you can confidently continue with the care you need.

And we’ll continue our mission to create a world without cancer.

Discover more at CityofHope.org
D. Sunny Bhatia is an interventional cardiologist who is quadruple board certified in internal medicine, cardiovascular disease, nuclear cardiology, and interventional cardiology. As a physician leader, interventional cardiologist, founder of medical groups, and executive leader of one of the largest health systems in the United States, Dr. Bhatia is a champion of healthcare excellence ensuring ongoing clinical quality and performance improvement. Dr. Bhatia establishes and facilitates processes to ensure engagement and alignment of all C-suite leaders and physicians, including setting the strategic direction and priorities for enhancing healthcare delivery for 18 Prime hospitals in California and Nevada.

Steven Burstein, MD currently serves as the director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at PIH Health Good Samaritan Hospital. He received his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin and completed his fellowship in cardiology and interventional cardiology. He is the past president of the American College of Cardiology. Dr. Burstein has served on numerous national and international committees.

Eugene Depasquale is the current Chair of the Department of Cardiology at Keck Hospital of USC. He completed his fellowship in cardiology and interventional cardiology, working with some of the foremost pioneers of the field. Dr. Burstein is also an associate professor of medicine and director of structural heart disease at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

Sudhaker NAYAK, M.D. is a board-certified cardiologist at PIH Health. He completed education and training at Osmania University in India, where he was first in his pre-med class and received a National Merit Scholarship. He immigrated to the U.S. and completed a residency in internal medicine at Prince George's Hospital Center in Maryland and a fellowship in cardiology at Wayne State University School of Medicine in Michigan. He completed a fellowship in interventional cardiology and electrophysiology at Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Los Angeles. Dr. Nayak holds a general board certification in internal medicine, and also has subspecialty certifications in critical care medicine, interventional cardiology and cardiovascular disease.

Marc Sakwa, MD is board-certified in cardiothoracic surgery and is nationally recognized as a pioneer in advanced heart care. He completed his undergraduate studies, graduating Magna Cum Laude at Brown University. Subsequently, he earned his medical degree at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Sakwa did his general surgery residency training at Brigham and Women's Hospital. He completed his residency in cardiothoracic surgery at NYU Medical Center. Dr. Sakwa is chief of cardiovascular surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA孙晋安, UCLA Health Chief of Cardiovascular Surgery and Medical Director, MemorialCare Heart & Vascular Institute in Long Beach, CA.

David Shavelle, MD chose medicine as a career because of early childhood memories of his father, who was one of the first nephrologists in the Long Beach area to establish an outpatient dialysis center. Dr. Shavelle developed a particular interest in cardiac physiology because of the strong basis on physiology and similarities to basic Mechanical Engineering principles, including hemodynamics. Today, he is actively engaged in clinical research and has published approximately 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts. Dr. Shavelle has received multiple teaching awards including the Gold Apple Award from Keck School of Medicine in 2010 and 2019.

Vivian Mo is a general cardiologist with a specialty focus in echocardiographic imaging who has been instrumental in building the current valve program at Keck Hospital of USC and helped achieve Keck’s #11 national ranking by US News and World Report for Cardiology and Heart Surgery in 2019. She has been at her current practice for 13 years and started out as a junior attending fresh out of fellowship. During her time at Keck, she had the opportunity to build her expertise and practice and expand into new imaging techniques with 3D echo to assist in structural heart disease interventions.

Karl Watson is an attending cardiologist and a professor of medicine/cardiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He is the Director of the UCLA Women’s Cardiovascular Health Program, co-director of the UCLA Program in Preventive Cardiology, and director of the UCLA Fellowship Program in Cardiovascular Diseases. Dr. Watson is a principal investigator for several large NIH research studies. Dr. Watson’s more than 100 publications and presentations have addressed many subjects including prevention of heart disease, vascular calcification, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease in African Americans.
WE TAKE ON THE TOUGHEST CASES

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Your safety is our top priority. From routine procedures to the most complex cases, our doctors and health care teams deliver the best possible outcomes. See our physicians who made the list of “Top Doctors” in Los Angeles.

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Armen Gregorian, MD is a board-certified physician specializing in general surgery and colorectal surgery at PIH Health. Dr. Gregorian completed an internship in general surgery at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, where he also served as a clinical researcher and resident in general surgery. Dr. Gregorian was awarded a prestigious yearlong fellowship in colon and rector surgery at Brown University in Rhode Island. He previously served as an assistant clinical coordinator in the UCLA School of Medicine’s Department of Neurosurgery, where he was responsible for setting up the clinic, providing scans and conducting administrative tasks related to procedures, visits and surgeries.

Arman H. Dorian, MD, FACEP MMM joined the USC Verdugo Hills Hospital executive team in July 2018 as the chief medical officer, business development, to help lead the physician medical staff as well as program development at USC-VHH. He is an associate professor of emergency medicine at the Keck School of Medicine, former chair of the Cedars-Sinai Society, and serves as both a foundation board member and community board member at USC-VHH. Dr. Dorian brings nearly two decades of medical experience, as an Emergency Board certified physician and valued leader and administrator. Dr. Dorian has dedicated himself to USC-VHH and the community in which it serves.

Kevin V. Hua
Emergency Department Operations Director
Emanate Health

Dr. Kevin V. Hua, DO has been practicing Emergency Medicine for 12 years and has been associated with Virtuity since 2011, where he currently serves as the emergency department operations director at Emanate Health Inter-Community Hospital. He is an active member of the Emanate Health Medical Center and Foot Hill Presbyterian Hospital Medical Staffs. Dr. Hua is double board-certified by the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians and the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians. Under his stewardship, Emanate Health has experienced an improved door-to-identification time from 61 minutes down to 13 minutes. Dr. Hua has been a champion for sepsis surveillance and continues to improve Emanate’s delivery of sepsis care.

Brandon Lew
Medical Director, Emergency Department
Huntington Hospital

Dr. Brandon Lew is the medical director of the emergency department at Huntington Hospital, the largest emergency department, and the only level-III trauma center in the San Gabriel Valley. He is president-elect of Huntington Hospital’s medical staff and a member of the board of directors. Dr. Lew received his Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences from USC, and his Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine from Western University of Health Sciences/COMP. He completed his emergency medicine residency at LAC – USC Medical Center. Dr. Lew is also co-director of Ever Urgent Care in Pasadena and La Canada. He is currently on the board of the USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association.

FolasaDe May
Emergency Department Operations Director, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

Dr. FolasaDe May is director of the May Laboratory, a health services and clinical research team that engages in research and quality improvement related to population health, preventive health, and health disparities at UCLA Health, in Federally Qualified Health Centers, and in Veterans Affairs. Dr. May’s research spans several fields from the epidemiology of disease and disease risk factors to implementation science to improve disease prevention in early detection of cancer. She also is director of grants and postgraduate research for the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine Global Health Program.

Maria T. Ochoa
Professor of Clinical Dermatology
Keck Medicine of USC

While providing high quality and compassionate care to her patients, Dr. Maria Ochoa’s clinical and research interest centers around infectious diseases of the skin, including the diagnosis and treatment of patients with skin manifestations of HIV, tropical dermatology and sexually transmitted diseases. She serves as the Director of the Hansen’s clinic at Los Angeles County. She also has a special research interest in the immunologic mechanism of the host response in infectious diseases of the skin. She is also focused on teaching the new generation of dermatologists and contributing to scientific publications.

Stefani Takahashi
Dermatology
Clinical Professor of Dermatology, Associate Department Chair; Vice Chair – Education – Department of Dermatology
Keck Medicine of USC

Dr. Stefani Takahashi is a clinical professor of dermatology and the associate department chair for the Department of Dermatology at Keck Medicine of USC. Her research focus is on clinical trials for the treatment of psoriasis and atopic dermatitis. She is also a co-founder and co-director of Camp Wonder, a camp for children with severe-skin disease. She is passionate about mentorship and education in dermatology for students and residents. She has served as residency program director for 15 years combined between UCLA and USC, providing support and guidance for medical students and residents as they navigate to through their professional journeys.
UCLA Health and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA congratulate Los Angeles Business Journal Top Doctors recipients as well as all of our physicians for being leaders in care delivery.

It’s that dedication to putting patients first that keeps us first, #1 in Los Angeles and #1 in California according to U.S. News & World Report’s annual best hospital rankings.

With four hospitals and over 200 neighborhood locations, everything we do begins with you.
Dr. David Tashman has over 20 years of practice experience. He graduated Cum Laude from California State University Northridge, and matriculated to The Medical College of Pennsylvania where he graduated with honors. In 2000, he finished dual residencies in Internal Medicine and Emergency Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Tashman has practiced in various clinical settings before settling in at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital Emergency Department, where he is now the medical director and chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine. His research is focused on care and treatment of the acute stroke patient; Tylenol overdose; and the graphical representation of data.

Growing up on a farm in Kansas, Dr. Jennifer Raymond learned how to work hard and care for her entire community. These early lessons solidified her desire for a life of service. Based on her experiences and education, the choice to enter pediatrics was clear, and she further focused this interest on diabetes. Choosing diabetes allowed her to combine her interests in behavioral health, advocacy, working as a team, and long-standing relationships with patients and families. When the opportunity to join Children's Hospital Los Angeles arose four years ago, Dr. Raymond reflected on her goals and concluded CHLA provided the perfect opportunity to combine her goals.

Dr. Marc Edelstein is a highly acclaimed gastroenterologist and is recognized as an expert in the diagnosis and treatment of digestive disorders and the performance of endoscopic procedures. He completed his fellowship in gastroenterology at UCLA Medical Center in 2001. Dr. Edelstein joined the medical staff of Cedars-Sinai in 2003. Where he now serves as chief of staff. Under the demands of COVID-19, Dr. Edelstein created new ways to communicate and amplify the outstanding work of his medical staff and that of Cedars-Sinai’s leaders, and as a result, medical center communications will continue to evolve well beyond COVID-19.

Bcred certified with the American Board of Internal Medicine with a special interest in infectious diseases, Dr. Antonio Escobedo explains that medicine combines his love of science, “curiosity about why things go wrong” and desire to help people. Specializing in internal medicine enables Dr. Escobedo to develop ongoing relationships and empower his patients to make healthy life choices. Dr. Escobedo earned a bachelor of science degree at UC San Diego and a doctorate from Northwestern University Medical School. He completed an internal medicine residency at Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego and was awarded an infectious disease fellowship at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Los Angeles.
Courage is putting yourself in the eye of the storm, and not blinking.

Words will never be enough to thank you. We salute all our heroes for your selfless service, compassion and dedication. Sharing our hope for a brighter year, stronger together.

Prime Healthcare congratulates Dr. Kavitha Bhatia, Dr. Sunny Bhatia and Dr. Paryus Patel on receiving the 2021 Top Doctor Award from the Los Angeles Business Journal.

Kavitha Bhatia, MD, MMM, FAAP
Chief Medical Officer, Strategy
Chair, Prime Healthcare Foundation

Sunny Bhatia, MD, MMM, FACC, FSCAI
Chief Executive Officer, Region I
Corporate Chief Medical Officer, Prime Healthcare
Chief Medical Officer, Sherman Oaks Hospital and Encino Hospital Medical Center

Paryus Patel, MD
Corporate Chief Medical Officer, Prime Healthcare
Chief Medical Officer, Centinela Hospital Medical Center

46 Hospitals Saved
14 States
300 Quality Awards in 2020 for Patient Safety & Excellence
2.5 Million+ Patients Served Annually
1.5 Billion in Charity Care in 2019

Prime Healthcare
Saving hospitals. Saving jobs. Saving lives.
ERNIE GUZMAN
INFECTIOUS DISEASE
Site Director, Pediatric Education
Adventist Health White Memorial

Dr. Ernie Guzman is site director for pediatric education and a pediatric infectious disease specialist at Adventist Health White Memorial (AHWM) in Los Angeles. He was program director for the Pediatric Residency at AHWM from 2000-2014 when the program closed. He received his medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine and received training in Pediatrics and Pediatric Infectious Disease at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. He has been practicing at AHWM for the past 29 years since completing his training. He is fluent in Spanish and able to easily communicate with patients from this underserved area.

MAITA KUVHENGUHWA
INFECTIOUS DISEASE
Infectious Disease Specialist
MLK Community Healthcare

Dr. Maita Kuvhenguwa holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of California, Irvine, and received her Doctor of Medicine from the University of California Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine and the Charles R. Drew University UCLA Medical Education Program. She is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and in Infectious Diseases, and is a member of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. She is one of the most visible community leaders for educating the public and has appeared on a number of local broadcasts to share her knowledge regarding the coronavirus.

RAPHAEL LANDOVITZ
INFECTIOUS DISEASE
Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases
UCLA Health

Dr. Raphael Landovitz is an infectious diseases doctor specializing in HIV/AIDS. Among other things, he led the HIV Prevention Trials Network research that found that a single injection every eight weeks of the drug cabotegravir protects against HIV infection for two months and is more effective for pre-exposure prophylaxis than the widely used daily oral drug Truvada. He is also a principal investigator in the UCLA arm of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine trial. He heads the Los Angeles County PEF Demonstration Project, collaborates with the City and County of Los Angeles, Friends Community Center, and works in the ACTG, HPTN and ATN clinical trials networks.

ELIZABETH MASLOW
INFECTIOUS DISEASE
INFECTIOUS DISEASE SPECIALIST
Adventist Health Glendale

Dr. Elizabeth Maslow is an infectious disease physician in Glendale, who practices at Adventist Health Glendale. She received her medical degree from UCLA, performed her residency at Harbor UCLA Medical Center and completed her Infectious Disease fellowship at USC. She specializes in practicing and teaching antimicrobial stewardship. Dr. Maslow serves as a key member of Adventist Health Glendale’s COVID-19 Advisory Team.

NEHA NANDA
INFECTIOUS DISEASE
Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Medical Director of Infectious Disease & Antimicrobial Stewardship
Keck Medicine of USC

Dr. Neha Nanda heads Healthcare Epidemiology/Infection Prevention and Antimicrobial Stewardship at Keck Medicine of USC and its affiliated hospitals and clinics. In this capacity, she leads Keck Medicine’s preparations and response for emerging infectious disease. In the last year, through the pandemic, she has led protocol and guideline development as it relates to patient and healthcare safety. Her research interests are geared towards infection prevention strategies and emerging pathogens. Her select publications include the impact of a multidisciplinary approach in reducing preventable harms, treatment strategies and diagnostics for C. difficile and biomarkers for appropriate antimicrobial use.

DR. JUAN BARRIO
INTERNAL MEDICINE
Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency Program
Adventist Health White Memorial

Dr. Juan Barrio is the program director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at Adventist Health White Memorial (AHWM) in Los Angeles, as well as attending staff physician and physician advisor for AHWM. He received his medical degree from the University of California San Diego School of Medicine. He did his internal medicine residency at Adventist Health White Memorial and has now been practicing for over 20 years at AHWM.

PINAL DOSHI
INTERNAL MEDICINE
Internal Medicine Specialist
PIH Health

Pinal Doshi, MD has been practicing medicine since 1990. He attended medical school in India and completed his medical training at Loma Linda University in California and United Hospital Medical Center in New Jersey. He earned a medical doctorate and a master’s degree in business administration from University of California, Irvine. In addition to English, Dr. Doshi speaks Gujarati and Hindi. He is board certified in internal medicine. Dr. Doshi believes that continued advances in technology enable today’s physicians to offer leading-edge treatments in an atmosphere that is both caring and efficient. His professional mission is to provide the best possible care to his patients.

MARK FARAG
NEUROLOGY
Vascular Neurologist
PIH Health

Mark Farag, MD is a board-certified vascular neurologist at PIH Health with advanced training from the University of California, Irvine. Dr. Farag specializes in neurological conditions affecting the elderly population, including ischemic stroke, dementia and headache. Dr. Farag currently serves as stroke medical director for PIH Health Downey Hospital, which is designated as a primary stroke center. Dr. Farag earned a bachelor’s degree at UCLA and a medical doctorate at Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia. Dr. Farag has published articles and conducted research in the areas of stroke and intracerebral hemorrhage. He is featured as a speaker at PIH Health’s annual stroke conference.
PIH Health Congratulates Our Top Doctors

Steven Burstein MD - Cardiology
Pinal Doshi MD - Internal Medicine
Antonio Escobedo MD - Infectious Disease
Mark Farag MD - Neurology
Kyle Greene MD - Oncology
Armen Gregorian MD - Colon & Rectal
Allison Hill MD - Obstetrics & Gynecology
Andrew Hsiao MD - Orthopedic
Andrew Luu MD – Orthopedic
Marlon Maducdoc MD - Otolaryngology
Sudhaker Nayak MD - Cardiology
David Reinstadler MD - Otolaryngology
Millicent Rovelo MD - Plastic/Reconstructive
Ron Shatzmiller MD - Neurology
Roy Silver MD - Obstetrics & Gynecology
Rodina Vatanparast MD - Oncology
Ron Shatzmiller, MD is a board-certified neurologist at PIH Health. He earned a bachelor’s degree in science and a master’s degree in neurology from McGill University in Montreal. He completed a medical doctorate at Tulane University School of Medicine. He served as chief neurology resident and clinical neurophysiology fellow at LAC+USC Medical Center. In 2009, Dr. Shatzmiller received the USC Department of Neurology Victor M. Victoroff Award for Compassionate Care in Neurology. He has also served as clinical assistant professor of neurology at USC’s Keck School of Medicine since 2011.

Laila Al-Marayati has maintained a commitment to providing comprehensive obstetric and gynecologic care to underserved and marginalized women in Los Angeles throughout her career. She developed and oversaw a large, collaborative practice between physicians and certified nurse midwives at a large, urban hospital in downtown Los Angeles for over 15 years and has consistently focused on multi-disciplinary safety measures to improve outcomes for high-risk pregnant women. As a leader at Keck and the Keck School of Medicine, one of her goals is to make women’s reproductive health at Keck and Keck Care a priority for women of all socioeconomic backgrounds.

Deborah Krakow’s research interests include defining prenatal ultrasound parameters in the osteochondrodysplasias, prenatal diagnosis of congenital anomalies; pregnancy outcomes in women with genetic syndromes; COVID-19 & pregnancy; and defining the molecular basis of musculoskeletal disorders. Dr. Krakow has spent the last several years researching the genes that cause the development of skeletal dysplasias prior to birth. She is a member of the International Skeletal Dysplasia Registry, which has the largest archive of prenatal cases in the world. Her current research, funded by another NIH-sponsored grant, involves the molecular genetics of Facio-Audio-Symphalangism, where she is attempting to locate the gene for this web-fingered, web-toed condition.

Roy Silver, MD is a board-certified obstetrician and gynecologist at PIH Health. He holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Brandeis University in Massachusetts and a medical doctorate from St. George’s University School of Medicine in Grenada, West Indies. He completed residencies in OB/GYN at New York University School of Medicine’s Downtown Hospital and at the University of Nevada School of Medicine – University Medical Center, where he served as chief resident. He also completed an externship with the University of Miami’s School of Medicine at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Dr. Silver received the prestigious Felix Rutledge Fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Dr. Laurence Spencer-Smith is a physician specializing in obstetrics and gynecology at Adventist Health White Memorial, where he has practiced for 38 years. Dr. Spencer-Smith went to medical school at Loma Linda University School of Medicine and did his internship and residency at Adventist Health White Memorial. His area of special interest is gynecologic oncology and surgery. He received the CREOG National Faculty Award in 2007, and is past president of ACOG District 9, Section 5.

Dr. Avo Artinyan is a board-certified general surgeon, a fellowship-trained surgical oncologist, and a colorectal surgeon. He received his medical degree from UC San Diego School of Medicine in 2000 and performed his general surgical and subspecialty training at USC and City of Hope. He was formerly associate professor of surgery and chief of colon and rectal surgery at the Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery at Baylor College of Medicine. He is a nationally recognized academic surgeon specializing in the treatment of complex colon and rectal cancers, gynecic cancer, and other solid malignancies.
Congratulations to our very own for being honored as LA’s Top Doctors!

Albert Antonio, M.D., neonatology
Christopher Babbitt, M.D., pediatric intensive care
Torin Cunningham, M.D., pediatric orthopedic surgery
Saar Danon, M.D., pediatric cardiology
Glenn Levine, M.D., pediatric intensive care
Inderpal Randhawa, M.D., pediatric pulmonology, allergy & immunology
Antoine Soliman, M.D., neonatology

We join our community in recognizing your excellence in providing specialized care to expectant mothers and children across our region.

Congratulations to our heroes for being honored as LA’s Top Doctors!

Amandeep Bhalla, M.D., spine surgery
Sherief Gamie, M.D., nuclear medicine
Marc Sakwa, M.D., cardiac surgery
David Shavelle, M.D., cardiology
Andrew Wassef, M.D., orthopedic surgery
Ronald Wolf, M.D., surgical oncology

We’re proud of your commitment to providing safe, high-quality care to our community not only during this pandemic, but always.
Dr. Loretta Erhunmwunsee is one of a few female African-American thoracic surgeons in the country. She sees patients with lung, esophageal and mediastinal tumors. Dr. Erhunmwunsee is on a mission to eliminate health inequities among minority and under-resourced populations. Her research focuses on eliminating health inequity in thoracic oncology patients. While lung cancer rates are declining in the United States, disparities still exist along racial and socioeconomic lines, especially for African-Americans. Dr. Erhunmwunsee is part of a City of Hope team that routinely engages the community in various initiatives in an effort to stamp out disparities.

Dr. Adam Garsa's research on head and neck cancers has evaluated the efficacy and toxicity of radiation therapy. The systematic review for brain metastases, for which he is principal investigator, is sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and will be used by the American Society for Radiation Oncology to develop guidelines for the treatment of brain metastases. Dr. Garsa has also been an invited lecturer at regional and national meetings and serves as a mentor to medical students and resident physicians. He is the author of 28 peer-reviewed journal articles, 30 abstracts and publications, and nine book chapters.

Dr. Kyle Greene is a certified hematologist and oncologist. He completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City and earned his medical degree from Albany Medical College in New York. Dr. Greene completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center. He chose the hematology/oncology specialty because he considers it a privilege to take care of individuals and their families with cancer. He finds it rewarding to translate the most modern advances in cancer care to his patients and see them make positive progress and outcomes. He believes physical activity, nutrition and wellbeing are vital to cancer care.

Dr. Beth Y. Karlan is an internationally recognized expert in ovarian cancer and other heritable cancers with a 30-year career as a physician and scientist. A board-certified gynecologic oncologist and physician-scientist, Dr. Karlan’s research and clinical practice focus primarily on ovarian cancer and investigating pressing clinical and translational questions related to the disease. Her research seeks to understand the genetic and phenotypic determinants of ovarian cancer, hereditary predisposition to cancer, and molecular biomarkers for early detection, treatment and prognostication of ovarian cancer. Dr. Karlan publishes extensively, and is editor-in-chief of her specialty’s two pre-eminent journals.
RODINA VATANPARAST
ONCOLOGY
Hematologist and Oncologist
PIH Health

Rodina Vatanparast, MD is a board-certified physician specializing in Hematology and Oncology at PIH Health. Dr. Vatanparast began her medical training early at King Drew Medical Magnet High School affiliated with UCLA Medical Center, where she had the opportunity to perform bench research in oncology. While there, her desire to care for people in their most vulnerable state using cutting-edge research/science and medical advancements drew her to hematology/oncology as a specialty. She has chaired a number of committees and published in major medical journals and has participated enrolled patients in more than 75 clinical trials.

RONALD WOLF
ONCOLOGY
Surgical Oncologist
MemorialCare Long Beach Medical Center

Dr. Ronald Wolf is a board-certified surgical oncologist who specializes in treating liver, bile duct and pancreatic cancer at the MemorialCare Todd Cancer Institute at Long Beach Medical Center. He also serves as a professor for the Department of Surgery, Division of Hepatobiliary and Pancreas Surgery at UCI School of Medicine. His clinical interests include pancreatic adenocarcinoma, colon and rectal cancers that have metastasized to the liver, surgical treatment for bile duct tumors and cysts, as well as surgery for soft tissue sarcoma. He continues his work as a committee member of several national organizations involved in clinical trials.

THOMAS LEE
OPHTHALMOLOGY
Director, The Vision Center at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Dr. Thomas Lee’s mission is to help eradicate childhood blindness worldwide. He earned his bachelor degree at Johns Hopkins University and received an MD from Cornell. He completed his ophthalmology residency at Cornell and then went to Harvard Medical School where he studied retinal stem cells and the role they play in cancer. Since arriving to Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, he has focused on providing the highest level of care to children in Los Angeles and abroad leveraging technology to scale efforts. Among other significant impacts, Dr. Lee pioneered the use of endoscopic retinal surgery for pediatric retinal detachments and published the largest case series.

GRACE RICHTER
OPHTHALMOLOGY
Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology, USC Roski Eye Institute

Grace Richter, MD, MPH is a glaucoma specialist in a tertiary care center seeking to provide the highest level of care for her patients. From medical management to minimally invasive glaucoma surgery to traditional surgery, Dr. Richter seeks excellence in the care she provides. Dr. Richter is doing research to better understand the vascular mechanisms that contribute to glaucoma pathophysiology and to determine ways to improve early detection of glaucoma. Areas of research include optical coherence tomography angiography for glaucoma; glaucoma epidemiology; diagnostic tools for glaucoma; and elucidating vascular mechanisms that contribute to glaucoma pathophysiology.
AMANDEEP BHALLA  
Orthopedic Spine Surgeon, Spine Center  
MemorialCare Long Beach Medical Center

Amandeep Bhalla, MD is a board certified, spine fellowship trained orthopedic surgeon specializing in treatment of the neck, back and spinal column. Dr. Bhalla practices in Long Beach with the Memorial Orthopedic Surgical Group. He is also on faculty at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and is a clinical instructor of Orthopaedic Surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He serves as the director of spine trauma for the department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. Dr. Bhalla also serves as a peer reviewer for the prestigious Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery and for The Spine Journal.

JAY R. LIEBERMAN  
Professor and Chair, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Keck Medicine of USC

Jay Lieberman is a pioneer in the field of regional gene therapy for bone repair. He is also leading an active clinical research program in outcomes after total joint arthroplasty. He has completed more than 300 published studies, book chapters and reviews and is the editor or co-editor of eight orthopedic texts, including Surgery of the Hip and American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Comprehensive Orthopaedic Review. His other research areas include outcomes after total hip and knee replacement; venous thromboembolic disease after total joint replacement; and osteonecrosis of the hip.

ANDREW HSIAO  
Chief, Orthopedic Department  
PIH Health

Andrew Hsiao, MD is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon and fellowship trained in the subspecialty of sports medicine. He has a unique interest in soft tissue injuries and treatment of cartilage loss in the knee and shoulder performs procedures that help facilitate the repair and regeneration of cartilage. He focuses on arthroscopy and reconstructive procedures of the elbow, shoulder, and knee. Each problem is approached conservatively and a multidisciplinary approach is utilized to expedite recovery and return patients to an active lifestyle. Currently he serves as chair of the Orthopedic Department at PIH Health Whittier Hospital.

WILLIAM GOW  
Associate Director of Orthopedics and Total Joint Replacement Surgery  
PIH Health

Dr. William Gow is an orthopedic surgeon based in Hollywood and has been affiliated with Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center since 1988. He received his medical degree from Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine and has been in practice for more than 20 years. Dr. Gow is originally a Midwesterner who grew up in the suburbs of Chicago. In 1977, he moved to Los Angeles and did his internship and residency at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance. As the years went on, he subspecialized in knee surgery—for the past 20 years or so, most of the surgical procedures he has performed involve either arthroscopic surgery or knee replacement.

RONALD KVITNE  
Orthopedic Surgeon  
Kerlan-Jobe Orthopedic Clinic, Cedars-Sinai

Ronald Kvitne is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon who specializes in sports medicine and the treatment of knees, shoulders, and elbows. One of the most highly recognized orthopedic surgeons in America, Dr. Kvitne completed his sports medicine-oriented Fellowship at the Kerlan-Jobe Orthopedic Clinic. Dr. Kvitne has served as team physician for the Los Angeles Kings for over 30 years; as team physician for the Los Angeles Galaxy for over 15 years; as orthopedic consultant for the UFC Mixed Martial Arts fighters from Las Vegas over 15 years; and as team physician for the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim over the last three seasons.

SETH GAMRADT  
Professor and Chair, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Keck Medicine of USC  
Keck Medicine of USC

Dr. Seth Gamradt’s goal is to provide outstanding clinical care (both surgical and nonsurgical) to athletes of all levels and the community. He strives to provide high level care to USC Athletics while developing a comprehensive program to study and prevent the most common injuries sustained by athletes. He works to develop improved communication and optimal coordination between coaches, athletic trainers, strength and conditioning personnel, nutrition, and athletic medicine physicians to establish a comprehensive and harmonized program for the well-being of athletes.

ANDREW LUU  
Associate Director of Orthopedics and Total Joint Replacement Surgery  
PIH Health

Andrew Luu, MD is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon specializing in orthopedic surgery. During his studies, Dr. Luu chose to specialize in orthopedic surgery because he was fascinated by the problem solving, planning, and intricacies that go into treating orthopedic injuries. He finds it gratifying that he is able to have such an immediate impact on his patients’ quality of life. Dr. Luu specializes in complex joint reconstructions and also performs minimally invasive procedures including anterior total hip replacements and partial knee replacements. Dr. Luu currently serves as associate director of Orthopedics and Total Joint Replacement Surgery at PIH Health.

A. NICK SHAMIE  
Chief of Orthopedic Spine Surgery, U.S.C./Spine Center  
UCLA Health

A. Nick Shamie serves as chief of orthopedic spine surgery at the UCLA Spine Center and professor of orthopedic surgery and spine surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He also serves as vice chair of International Affairs at UCLA Health. He is an expert reviewer for the Medical Board of California and is a member and former president of the American College of Spine Surgery. Dr. Shamie is actively involved in medical education of fellows, medical students and residents at UCLA and has traveled internationally (including China and the UAE) to teach spine procedures.
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Doctors were made for more. More time spent learning the latest advances. More collaboration with other experts. More compassionate moments with those that are entrusted to their care. That’s why Adventist Health is pleased to recognize these physicians for delivering outstanding healthcare. We thank you for your dedication to serving our communities by inspiring health, wholeness and hope.
David Skaggs considers it an honor and privilege to have cared for the children of Los Angeles for the past 25 years. He has helped design and patent spine instrumentation which is used all over the world and has written and served as editor for the best-selling textbook in pediatric orthopedic surgery, Fractures in Children, in addition to two other textbooks that are used to train surgeons throughout the world. His background as a NCAA All-American used to train surgeons throughout the world.

Andrew J. Wassef, MD is a fellowship-trained, board-certified orthopedic surgeon with Long Beach – Lakewood Orthopedic Institute in Long Beach. He serves as the medical director of the MemorialCare Joint Replacement Center at Long Beach Medical Center. He specializes in joint replacement and the treatment of arthritic conditions affecting the hip, knee and shoulder. His clinical interests include complex reconstructions, hip resurfacing, joint replacements in the younger population, minimally invasive surgery, revision of failed total joint replacements, revision surgery and robotic-assisted surgery. Dr. Wassef instills the rapid recovery philosophy pioneered by the MemorialCare Joint Replacement Center.

Marlon Maducdoc, MD is a board-certified otolaryngology head and neck surgeon, a specialty focusing on ears, nose and throat (ENT). Dr. Maducdoc earned a medical doctorate from the University of California Irvine School of Medicine and completed a residency at the University of California Medical Center. He has published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals. During his year serving as chief resident at University of California in Irvine, he was the recipient of the excellence in medicine award recognizing his achievements and outstanding contributions to medical education. Dr. Maducdoc has experience in treating complex ENT disorders in both pediatric and adult populations.

David Reinstadler is a board-certified otolaryngologist at PIH Health. He specializes in head and neck conditions, focusing on the ear, nose and throat (ENT). Dr. Reinstadler chose the otolaryngology specialty because he found the anatomy of the head and neck to be fascinating. He is intrigued by the combination of aesthetics and technicality in his specialty. He is board certified in facial plastic surgery and works with patients requiring facial reconstruction. Since each case is different, especially in the operating room, Dr. Reinstadler is always willing to adapt and change possible preconceived notions about a case.

Albert Antonio, DO, FAAP, is a board-certified pediatrician and neonatologist, and serves as the director of the Neonatal Transport Medicine Program at Miller Children’s & Women’s Hospital Long Beach. Dr. Antonio oversees the Neonatal Transport Medicine Program operations, program development, staff and physician training specific to critically ill neonates transport. His commitment to improving clinical and patient outcomes centers on TeamSTEPPS, designed to optimize the use of information, clinician, and resources to achieve optimal outcomes. It was developed by the Department of Defense’s Patient Safety Program in collaboration with the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality and Dr. Antonio is a certified master trainer.

Christopher Babbitt, MD, is the medical director of the PacifiCare Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at MemorialCare Miller Children’s & Women’s Hospital Long Beach. He received his medical degree at Tulane Medical School before going on to complete his residency and fellowship at UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital. Dr. Babbitt is certified by the American Board of Pediatrics with a subspecialty in pediatric critical care. He has served in several different appointments at Miller Children’s throughout his career, including clinical director of the PICU and medical director of pediatric informatics.
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Dr. Kavitha Bhatia, as Prime Healthcare’s chief medical officer, strategy, leads the development and implementation of strategic initiatives that advance the mission and success of Prime Healthcare. Dr. Bhatia works with corporate and hospital leaders to align goals, prioritize system-wide value creation, and implement strategic initiatives to ensure Prime’s continued operational, financial and clinical success. Dr. Bhatia’s leadership and vision have helped Prime build the infrastructure to leverage its unique value and national scale, leading to improved quality, efficiency, and standardization at Prime’s 46 hospitals across the United States.

Dr. Michael Bryant is a professor of clinical pediatrics at the USC Keck School of Medicine and is currently the division chief of pediatric hospital medicine at Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles (CHLA). In September of 2020 he was selected as the inaugural vice chair of diversity, equity and inclusion for the Department of Pediatrics at CHLA, a department with over 450 faculty. Dr. Bryant was a National Health Services Scholar and spent his early career as a pediatrician serving the migrant farm population in Ventura County and focused on improving access for the historically underserved patients and those economically disadvantaged.

Dr. Torin J. Cunningham is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon and medical director of the Orthopedic Center at MemorialCare Miller Children’s & Women’s Hospital Long Beach. Dr. Cunningham specializes in spinal deformity/scoliosis surgery for children and adolescents, hip reconstructive surgery and general pediatric orthopedic care. In addition, Dr. Cunningham teaches residents from the pediatric residency program and has given several lectures at Miller Children’s & Women’s. He is one of only a handful of pediatric orthopedic surgeons in the country that is trained on the ExcelsiusGPS, a robotic navigation technology, for spine surgery. ExcelsiusGPS is designed to improve accuracy and optimize patient care by using robotics and navigation.

Glenn Levine, MD is a pediatric critical care physician at PrimeCare Miller Children’s & Women’s Hospital Long Beach since 2004. Dr. Levine completed his BS in physiological sciences at UCLA, followed by his Medical Degree at University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. He did his pediatric internship at Texas Tech University Health Science Center in Lubbock and his residency at Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles. He is triple boarded in pediatrics, pediatric critical care and hospice and palliative care.

Dr. Inderpal Randhawa is a leading specialist in internal medicine, pediatrics, immunology, allergy medicine, and pulmonology with 15 years of experience. Dr. Randhawa focuses on the research and treatment of ‘orphan’ diseases—areas of medicine that have stalled in development and progress. Dr. Randhawa is the medical director of the Children’s Pulmonary Institute at Miller Children’s & Women’s where he has served in various leadership positions for more than a decade. Dr. Randhawa also is the program director of the Pediatric Pulmonology Fellowship at UCI and Miller Children’s & Women’s, and program director of the Cystic Fibrosis Center.

Antoine Soliman, MD serves as the medical director of Miller Children’s & Women’s NICU, a part of the Pediatric Medical Group practice at MemorialCare. Dr. Soliman was formerly the Director of the Small Baby Unit at Children’s Hospital Orange County and Assistant Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the University of California, Irvine School of Medicine. In 2007, Dr. Soliman was recruited to join the faculty at Children’s Hospital Orange County and the University of California, Irvine Department of Pediatrics. In his time there, he helped develop the Small Baby Unit - a unique program of care that remarkably improved outcomes for extremely preterm infants.

Millecent Rovelo, MD is a double board-certified surgeon specializing in plastic, reconstructive and cosmetic surgery at PIH Health. Dr. Rovelo has her own private practice in Beverly Hills and is also part of the medical staff at PIH Health. Her main focus is post-bariatric body contouring. Post-bariatric patients have typically lost large amounts of weight in a very short time. They are left with a significant amount of excess skin that contributes to additional health and hygiene problems. In the body contouring surgeries that Dr. Rovelo performs, she removes and contours large amounts of excess skin of the abdomen, chest, breasts, thighs, arms, and face.
9. Mark M. Urata is board certified in both oral and maxillofacial surgery and plastic and reconstructive surgery, making him uniquely qualified to lead the Division of Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Certified by both the American Board of Plastic Surgery and the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, he specializes in the most complex craniofacial anomalies, including craniosynostosis, syndromic reconstruction, and jaw deformities. He is an associate professor of plastic surgery at Keck School of Medicine of USC and a research assistant professor in the Center for Craniofacial Molecular Biology of the USC School of Dentistry.

10. Steven Chang has expertise in the management of acute respiratory failure requiring mechanical ventilatory support, and in the management of shock. He is currently involved as a co-primary investigator in ARDS trials overseen by the PEARL network and sponsored by the NIH/NHLBI. He has been involved in multiple clinical trials investigating mechanical ventilation, septic shock, and ICU structure & function. He also has more recently been involved in leading research relating to lung health and COVID-19. In 2015, Dr. Chang received the Center for Translational Technologies Core Voucher Award for his research on Biomarkers for hepsis versus sepsis in critically ill patients with liver failure.

Peter S. Marshall, MD, MPH served as the medical officer for Prime Healthcare, a group of 10 hospitals in the Los Angeles area. He has over 15 years of professional medical experience to help build Prime Healthcare into one of the largest and most successful hospital systems in the nation. Since coming to Keck, Dr. Marshall has had major impact on the management of COVID-19 and coordinating efforts at Keck, which has served as a major referral center for hospitals that are overwhelmed or unable to care for patients with severe COVID-19 illness.

Steven Chang, MD
Clinical Professor of Medicine in Pulmonary & Critical Care, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Director, Medical Intensive Care Unit, Ronald Reagan-UCLA Medical Center
UCLA Health

Gurjeet Kalikat, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Emanate Health

Shereif Gamie, MD, PhD
Board-certified clinical nuclear medicine specialist. His clinical interests include targeted applications of radiopharmaceuticals in cancer diagnosis and therapy. Dr. Gamie’s research focuses on molecular imaging in cancer staging and targeted radiation therapy (brachytherapy & intravascular radiation therapy (IVRT)) and his work has been published in multiple peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Gamie is dedicated to the belief that cancer is a heterogeneous group of diseases that necessitate a multidisciplinary approach to treatment. He has built his practice, towards the goal of an uncompromising pursuit for excellent patient outcomes around this concept.
New Clinical Trial will Test Combination Monoclonal Antibody Therapy for COVID-19

A phase 2/3 clinical trial has begun to evaluate a combination investigational monoclonal antibody therapy for its safety and efficacy in people who have mild or moderate COVID-19. The two experimental antibodies, BRII-196 and BRII-198, target SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The trial, known as ACTIV-2, is sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines (ACTIV) program is a public-private partnership to develop a coordinated research strategy for speeding development of the most promising treatments and vaccine candidates. ACTIV-2 is a master protocol designed for evaluating multiple investigational agents compared to placebo in adults with mild-to-moderate COVID-19. The trial, led by the NIAID-funded AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) and supported by PEPFAR (Wilmington, North Carolina), will enroll participants at sites around the world. The ACTIV-2 study began on Aug. 4, 2020, with an evaluation of LY-CoV555, an investigational monoclonal antibody discovered by AbCellera Biologics in collaboration with NIAID’s Vaccine Research Center. LY-CoV555 was developed further and manufactured by Eli Lilly and Company, in partnership with AbCellera. On Nov. 10, 2020, LY-CoV555, also known as bamlanivimab, was granted Emergency Use Authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for treating mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in adults and children over 12 years old who are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization. With the initiation of the BRII-196 and BRII-198 experimental monoclonal antibodies in the ACTIV-2 study, the LY-CoV555 sub-study will close to enrollment. BRII-196 and BRII-198 are investigational, neutralizing monoclonal antibodies manufactured by Brii Biosciences. Antibodies are infection-fighting proteins naturally made by the immune system that can bind to viruses and prevent them from infecting cells. BRII-196 and BRII-198 are synthetic versions of antibodies produced naturally by humans. Data on each antibody from Phase I trials that are currently ongoing support the doses being used in the ACTIV-2 trial.

The ACTIV-2 study design allows researchers to observe the therapeutics’ efficacy in a small group of volunteers and then administer it to a larger group if the antibody appears safe and effective. The trial will initially enroll 220 participants with mild or moderate COVID-19, who are at risk for disease progression. Half of the participants (110) will receive BRII-196 and BRII-198 through intravenous infusions, while the remaining half will receive placebo infusions. Participants are assigned at random to one of the treatment groups, and the trial is blinded so neither participants nor investigators will know who is receiving the antibody therapy. Participants will attend a series of clinic or at-home visits by clinicians to track their condition and will be followed for a total of 72 weeks. An independent Data and Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) overseeing the trial will review the data collected at 28 days. They will monitor data to see if the therapy is safe, can reduce the duration of COVID-19 symptoms and can eliminate the presence of viral RNA in the body. If there are no serious safety concerns and the results seem promising, the trial will transition to Phase 3 to enroll approximately 622 additional outpatient volunteers, for a total of 842 trial participants. These new participants will be randomized to receive the therapeutic or a placebo.

The primary objective of the Phase 3 trial is to determine if the therapy prevents either hospitalization or death by 28 days after study entry. The study team for ACTIV-2 is led by protocol chairs Kara W. Chew, M.D., M.S., of UCLA, and Davey Smith, M.D., MAS, of the UCSD. Eric S. Duat, M.D., of UCLA, and David Wohl, M.D., of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, serve as protocol vice-chairs. The ACTG network is led by chair Judith Currier, M.D., (UCLA) and vice-chair Joseph Eron, M.D., of UNC. The study of BRII-196 and BRII-198 is led by Eric S. Duat, M.D., of the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and Teresa H. Evering, M.D., M.S., of Weill Cornell Medical Center, New York City.

For more information on this study, please visit rxsaveslives.org, or clinicaltrials.gov and search identifier NCT04518410.

NIH, the nation’s medical research agency, includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NIH is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting basic, clinical, and translational medical research, and is investigating the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit.nih.gov.