



PEDIATRIC RESIDENCY PROGRAM

BETTER CARE THROUGH DIVERSITY

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At Children's Hospital Los Angeles we celebrate diversity in all its forms. We are excited to share more about our patients, faculty and programs.

IMPACT PROJECT TRACK

The IMPACT (Improving Medicine: Pediatricians and Communities Together) Project track provides a focused, longitudinal experience, which includes either a community-based project or policy work. Residents make a positive impact on their community while learning to develop and implement a child advocacy intervention.

[CHLA.org/IMPACT](https://chla.org/IMPACT)

RESEARCH AT CHLA

Children's Hospital Los Angeles is well-known for research in a variety of fields, including health disparities and health advocacy. The Saban Research Institute of Children's Hospital Los Angeles is among the largest and most productive pediatric research centers in the Western United States.

[CHLA.org/RESEARCH](https://chla.org/RESEARCH)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION (DEI) FACULTY COUNCIL

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Faculty Council, a representative committee comprised of liaisons from the five academic departments at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, seeks to strategically coordinate and respond to issues directly related to faculty DEI initiatives, experiences, policies and enterprise-wide goals. The members of this council provide direct consultation and support to their departments. They also provide representative contributions to enterprise-wide DEI operations and strategic planning. The council convenes regularly to discuss topics, share initiatives, collaborate and formulate recommendations on such issues as the recruitment, retention and promotion of historically underrepresented groups, equitable allocation of resources, and the dissemination and execution of best practices for faculty development.



Hanna Song, PhD

Vice President and Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

ANESTHESIOLOGY AND CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE



Gitanjali (Tanya) Arora, MD

Division of Comfort and Palliative Care, Department of Anesthesia and Critical Care Medicine,
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology, Keck School of Medicine of USC



Jennifer Lau, MD

Director, Pediatric Anesthesiology Fellowship Program, Department of Anesthesiology and Critical
Care Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Associate Professor of Anesthesiology (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

PEDIATRICS



Michael Bryant, MD

Head, Division of Hospital Medicine, Vice Chair of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (Department of
Pediatrics), Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

PATHOLOGY



Jennifer Dien-Bard, PhD

Director, Clinical Microbiology and Virology Laboratory, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Associate Professor of Pathology (Clinical Scholar), Keck School of Medicine of USC



Jaclyn Biegel, PhD

Chief of Genomic Medicine and Director, Center for Personalized Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Professor of Pathology (Clinical Scholar), Keck School of Medicine of USC

SURGERY



Bianca Edison, MD

Division of Orthopaedics, Vice Chair of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (Department of Surgery), Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Clinical Professor of Orthopaedics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

RADIOLOGY



Amit Sura, MD

Director, Radiology Fellowship Program, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Radiology, Keck School of Medicine of USC

OUR DIVERSE FACULTY



Paibel I. Aguayo-Hiraldo, MD

Ambulatory Medical Director, Transplant and Cellular Therapy, Division of Hematology, Oncology and Blood and Marrow Transplantation, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Internal Medicine and Pediatrics – University of South Florida, Morsani College of Medicine

Fellowship: Pediatric Hematology and Oncology – Baylor College of Medicine, Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant – Baylor College of Medicine

Academic/Research Interests: My clinical interest includes bone marrow transplants for non-malignant disorders such as immunodeficiencies and immune dysregulation disorders, as well as the use of alternate donors as umbilical cord blood for stem cell transplant. My research interests include complications post-transplant including graft-vs-host disease, treatment of infections post bone marrow transplant utilizing adoptive immunotherapy to treat viral infections, and evaluation of disparities in access to immunotherapy between different ethnic and socioeconomic groups in our community and across the U.S.

Personal Interests: I have a newly found love for cooking. I also enjoy hiking, more so if there are waterfalls along the trail, and spending time with my family working on DIY projects. I love theater, classical music and dancing.

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "I love my team; it is a very diverse group on training, mentality and ethnicity as well as on clinical research and areas of interest. What is most important is that they are happy to share their knowledge with the entire team."

Ask Me About: I am open to discuss pretty much anything.

paguayohiraldo@chla.usc.edu



Ashaunta Anderson, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Baylor College of Medicine

Fellowship: Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program

Academic/Research Interests: Early school readiness and racial socialization, health disparities, quality improvement in the management of sickle cell disease

Personal Interests: All things French, running, reading for fun, traveling

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The people!"

Ask Me About: Early childhood racial socialization

asanderson@chla.usc.edu



Gitanjali (Tanya) Arora, MD

Division of Comfort and Palliative Care, Department of Anesthesia and Critical Care Medicine,
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Fellowship: Kaiser Hospice and Palliative Medicine

Roles at CHLA: co-Director of ACCM Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; co-Chair of the Graduate Medical Education DEI committee; co-Chair of the Cultural Humility Council

Academic/Research Interests: Patient and family centered care, shared decision making, centering patients and family in clinical care, cultural humility, global health, medical education

Personal Interests: Travel and dreaming about travel, reading, spending time with family and friends

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The dedication of all who work here to doing the best we can for patients and families."

Ask Me About: Culturally humble care with patients, families and communities

garora@chla.usc.edu



Fernando Beltramo, MD

Division of Critical Care, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Miami Children's Hospital

Fellowship: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Noninvasive monitoring, ECMO, mechanical ventilation, neurocritical care

Personal Interests: Soccer, rugby, philosophy, travel

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "Working with an exceptional group of people."

fbeltramo@chla.usc.edu



Ashley Bennett, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: University of Oklahoma

Fellowship: Community and Societal Pediatrics—University of Florida College of Medicine-Jacksonville

Academic/Research Interests: Environmental and social determinants of health, child rights, social justice, integrative medicine, community-based participatory research, media and health, trauma-informed care, parental incarceration and child health

Personal Interests: Street art, time banking

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The people! I feel so lucky to work with a group of friendly people who are all very passionate about child health."

Ask Me About: Collaborating with people and organizations in the community to address the root causes of health disparities. Let me know if you would like to explore options for creating holistic programs to improve child well-being.

abennett@chla.usc.edu



Melissa Bent, MD

Division of Orthopaedics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedic Surgery, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: University of California, San Francisco

Fellowship: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Academic/Research Interests: Medical education, children with special health care needs, pediatric back pain, underrepresented in medicine (UIM) pipeline programs

Personal Interests: Travel, kayaking, yoga

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The dedication to the mission to genuinely treat kids better and the support to do so."

Ask Me About: Musculoskeletal pediatrics

mbent@chla.usc.edu



Parul Bhatia, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), co-Director, Pediatric Clerkship,
Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency and Chief Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Medical education, childhood hearing health, early language exposure

Personal Interest: Spending time with family and friends, curling up with a good book, traveling, painting

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The amazing people (colleagues and patients) I learn from every day."

Ask Me About: Working with medical students, pediatric practice in the community setting, pediatric hearing health

pbatia@chla.usc.edu



Claudia Borzutzky, MD

Program Director, Adolescent Medicine Fellowship, Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine
Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

Fellowship: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Adolescent sexual and reproductive health, including contraception and menstrual disorders

Personal Interests: Outdoor activities (running, skiing, backpacking), reading novels, languages

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The mission and the awesome people."

Ask Me About: Adolescent reproductive health, adolescent medicine fellowship, and being from South America

cborzutzky@chla.usc.edu



Michael Bryant, MD, MBA

Head, Division of Hospital Medicine, Vice Chair of Diversity Equity, Inclusion (Department of Pediatrics),
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency and Chief Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Business development, hospital operations, faculty development

Personal Interests: Sports (rugby, football, basketball), art

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The patients we serve."

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Patricia Castillo, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Obesity prevention, diversity and inclusion efforts, health disparities, underserved populations

Personal Interests: Exploring Los Angeles, traveling, dancing, green living

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The people! Here, you are surrounded by great minds, true innovators and friends. We have shared goals of helping our patients and surrounding community. My colleagues inspire me constantly."

Ask Me About: Pediatric obesity prevention, diversity and inclusion, health care in under resourced communities, women in medicine

pcastillo@chla.usc.edu



Lily Chattopadhyay, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Sustainability (particularly in health care), environmental health and climate justice, global health

Personal Interests: Ballet, gardening, sustainable décor + DIY, cooking, cats, travel, sleeping

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The camaraderie with coworkers."

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Mallory Chavannes, MD

Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center,
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: University of Western Ontario

Fellowship: University of Montreal

Advanced Fellowship: University of British Columbia

Academic/Research Interests: Intestinal ultrasound, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), therapeutic drug monitoring in IBD

Personal Interests: Photography

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "We have a supportive and diverse group of physicians, nurses and allied health professional truly dedicated to serving the children of Los Angeles. It is an inspiring environment to be in."

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Jolene Collins, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland

Academic/Research Interests: Medical education, community outpatient pediatrics, health inequalities

Personal Interests: Exploring the outdoors, travel, cooking

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "My inspiring and amazing colleagues."

Ask Me About: Women in medicine or health care delivery in underserved communities

jocollins@chla.usc.edu



Sylvia Del Castillo, MD

Division of Critical Care, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency and Chief Residency: Phoenix Children's Hospital/Maricopa Medical Center

Fellowship: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Abdominal perfusion in neonates with single-ventricle congenital heart disease

Personal Interests: Music, singing, movies, wine, family

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The people I work with."

Ask Me About: Critical care medicine or what it means to be a physician leader

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Jon Detterich, MD

Division of Cardiology, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Fellowship: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Cardiovascular disease in patients with sickle cell anemia

Personal Interests: Being with my family, especially my kids; most water sports—surfing, swimming

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The dedication of the people who work here and the families of the children who are treated here."

jdetterich@chla.usc.edu



Alicia L. Easley, MD

Division of Hospital Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles Clinical
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland, Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center

Academic/Research Interests: LGBT community, community hospital medicine, medical student education

Personal Interests: Singing, surfing

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "Collaboration with community hospitals; there is enough going on so that most can find a niche."

Ask Me About: LGBT and women of color in medicine

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Bianca Edison, MD, MS

Division of Orthopaedics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Clinical Professor of Orthopaedics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency and Chief Residency: UCLA

Fellowship: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Female athletes, injury prevention, nutrition, overuse injuries

Personal Interests: Spending time with my family, athletics (ballet, tennis, swimming, skiing, hiking, running, yoga), cooking, diversity issues and topics

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The hospital is a supportive environment!"

bedison@chla.usc.edu



Lourdes Escalona, MD

Division of Emergency Medicine and Transport, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Residency: Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

Fellowship: Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Bedside clinical teaching, school- based health care delivery and community health advocacy

Personal Interests: Family time, travel, sports, art, photography

Favorite Thing About CHLA: “The patient population and talented staff.”

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Juan Espinoza, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Digital media, technology and their roles in medicine and medical education

Personal Interests: Music, cooking, cycling

Favorite Thing About CHLA: “The community we have here. It’s absolutely wonderful.”

Ask Me About: Let me know if you would like to talk about...anything!

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Kevin Fang, MD MPH

Division of General Pediatrics, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Assistant Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Assistant Program Director, Pediatric Residency Program

Program Director, General Academic Pediatrics Fellowship in Health Equity

Residency: Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: School health, health policy, social determinants of health

Personal Interest: Watching reality television competition shows, volleyball, music

Favorite Thing About CHLA: “That we’re a top children’s hospital and a safety net hospital. The people are pretty cool too.”

Ask Me About: Advocacy, community partnerships, the latest episode of Survivor

kfang@chla.usc.edu



Gladys Felix, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: UCLA

Fellowship: Community Medicine–Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center

Academic/Research Interests: Early child language, school readiness, care of children with medical complexity, care of underserved populations, health advocacy

Personal Interests: Exploring L.A., traveling abroad, yoga, hiking, hanging with family and friends, eating ethnic cuisines

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "I am surrounded by colleagues who are not only well-trained and talented, but who are also incredibly mission driven. Our faculty truly cares for the most vulnerable and underserved patients in Los Angeles and we do it with pride."

Ask Me About: Latinx in medicine, women in medicine

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Senta Georgia, PhD

Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Academic/Research Interests: Diabetes, regenerative medicine, stem cells

Personal Interests: Gastronomy

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The potential to affect patient care."

Ask Me About: Translational research projects, underrepresented minority (URM) representation in basic science

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Yvonne (Bonnie) Gutierrez, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Fellowship: Academic General Pediatrics – Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Children with cleft lip and palate and other craniofacial differences, children with infantile hemangiomas, residency education in continuity clinic

Personal Interests: Running, music, soccer

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The people I work with (staff and patients)."

Ask Me About: Working as a Latina physician in a diverse, large urban community

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Jeanine E. Hall, MD

Division of Emergency and Transport Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Fellowship: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Health Services research, addressing disparities in accessing post-emergency department care, process improvement, emergency department throughput

Personal Interests: Spending time with my husband and three daughters, travel, gaming, TV and film story analysis

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "Great team members dedicated to providing amazing care to our patients and their families."

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Adriana Hernandez, MD

Assistant Director, Pediatric Residency Program, Division of Hospital Medicine,
Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency and Chief Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Medical education and educational scholarship

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The people!"

Ask Me About: Working with a primarily Spanish-speaking and underserved population

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Winston Huh, MD

Director, Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Fellowship Program, Division of Hematology,
Oncology and Blood and Marrow Transplantation, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency and Chief Residency: University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Academic/Research Interests: Soft tissue sarcomas, rare pediatric tumors, graduate medical education

Personal Interest: Winemaking, total foodie

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The people that I work with."

Ask Me About: Napa Valley wines and food in SoCal

whuh@chla.usc.edu



Joyce Javier, MD, MPH

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics and Population and Public Health Sciences, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Stanford University

Fellowship: Stanford University

Academic/Research Interests: Addressing child health disparities among Asian-Americans, engaging Filipinos in evidence-based preventive parenting interventions and cross-cultural communication

Personal Interests: Family time with my husband and two daughters, reading, crocheting

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "My colleagues, diverse patient population, excellent child care for faculty/residents."

Ask Me About: Health disparities research, behavioral health promotion among Filipino youth, or women in medicine

jojavier@chla.usc.edu



Thomas G. Keens, MD

Director, Pulmonary Physiology Laboratory; Director, Cystic Fibrosis Care Center; Division of Pulmonology and Sleep Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Pediatric pulmonary physiology, cystic fibrosis, home mechanical ventilation, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)

Personal Interest: Choral singing (in a choir, not a soloist)

Favorite thing about CHLA: "I have been on the faculty nearly 45 years. The people who work here and our patients inspire me."

Ask Me About: Pediatric pulmonology: "Want to join our fellowship?"

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Rohit Kohli, MBBS, MS

Co-Chair, Council for the Center for Global Health; Chief, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition; Director, The George Donnell Society for Pediatric Scientists; Associates and Affiliates Endowed Chair in Liver and Intestinal Research, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Professor of Pediatrics (Clinical Scholar), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: New York Medical College, Metropolitan Hospital

GI Fellowship: Children's Memorial Hospital, Northwestern University

Advanced Hepatology Fellowship: Children's Memorial Hospital, Northwestern University

Academic/Research Interests: Obesity, fatty liver disease, liver transplant

Personal Interest: Traveling

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The mission-based efforts and diversity of pathology, patients and colleagues."

Ask Me About: Research-focused career paths, The George Donnell Society for Pediatric Scientists

rokohli@chla.usc.edu



Fasha Liley, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Fellowships: Nephrology – Children's Hospital Los Angeles; Transplant Nephrology – Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Academic/Research Interests: Hypertension, medical education, preventive care

Personal Interests: Triathlons, cooking

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The passion, intelligence and commitment my colleagues display taking care of patients and training residents."

Ask Me About: Global health, work-life balance, collaboration at CHLA, utilization management

fliley@chla.usc.edu



Kira Molas-Torreblanca, DO

Director, Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship
Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine at USC

Residency and Chief Residency: University of Nevada, Reno

Academic/Research Interests: Medical education, curriculum development, postpartum screening in inpatient setting, safe discharge transitions, racial disparities

Personal Interests: Tennis, cooking (I am a total "foodie"), photography, traveling around the world

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "I love the people I work with. I feel privileged to work at one of the best children's hospitals and to take care of the patients in the community we serve."

Ask Me About: Women in medicine, diversity at CHLA, fellowship training at CHLA

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Rebecca Martinez, MD

Transport Physician, Division of Neonatology, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Washington University School of Medicine, Children's Hospital of St. Louis

Fellowship: Washington University School of Medicine, Children's Hospital of St. Louis

Academic/Research Interests: Quality improvement, resident education, simulation education, transport medicine

Personal Interest: Going to the beach, hiking, yoga, Peloton

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The true collaborative spirit that everyone demonstrates. Egos are left at the door and everyone rallies together to do what is best for the patient."

Ask Me About: Transport medicine, neonatology, being a young female minority physician

rebemartinez@chla.usc.edu



Marwa Moustafa, MD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Special education, medical professionalism, doctor-patient communication

Personal Interests: Reading, cooking, travel

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "Phenomenal colleagues, variability/individuality in career paths, ample opportunity for professional advancement and growth."

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Cynthia E. Muñoz, PhD, MPH

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Fellowship: Pediatric Psychology, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Behavioral health and health disparities associated with pediatric type 1 and type 2 diabetes

Personal Interests: Movies and music

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The families we serve and our collective commitment to culturally-informed, excellent care."

Ask Me About: Pediatric psychology expertise to answer complex problems, including the impact of depression, anxiety and learning disabilities on diabetes management and Latino behavioral health

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Pia S. Pannaraj, MD, MPH

Division of Infectious Diseases, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: University of California, San Diego

Fellowship: Baylor College of Medicine

Academic/Research Interests: Maternal-infant vaccinations, impact of microbiota on immune development and vaccine response, global health, global vaccine advocacy

Personal Interests: Family, travel

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The diversity of patients."

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Mona Patel, MD

Vice President, Ambulatory Care Delivery and Operations, Division of General Pediatrics,
Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency and Chief Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Community and legislative child health advocacy, social emotional determinants of health and health equity, caring for underserved populations, health services utilization, value-based payment structures, ambulatory care environments, children with special health care needs/PCMH

Personal Interests: Cooking, gardening, hanging out with family and friends

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "My patients, the people I work with and the mission of our organization."

Ask Me About: Mentorship for scaling systems-based care in health care delivery models, social determinants of health, health equity, ambulatory care

mpatel@chla.usc.edu



Carlos Pelayo, MD

Division of Pediatric Surgery, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency and Chief Residency: University of California, San Francisco

Fellowship: University of Chicago Medicine, Comer Children's Hospital

Academic/Research Interests: Surgical Simulation Fellowship co-director, surgical/ECMO quality and outcomes research

Personal Interests: Spending time with my family and kids, traveling, music concerts, the L.A. art scene

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The culture that strives to provide the best-quality care for children in Los Angeles."

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José Carlos D. Polido, DDS, MS

Head, Division of Dentistry and Orthodontics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Associate Professor of Clinical Dentistry, Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC

Residency: Advanced Program in Pediatric Dentistry—Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC (Children's Hospital Los Angeles and Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center)

Academic/Research interests: Oral health care for children with special health care needs, in particular autism and craniofacial anomalies

Personal Interests: Music, food, family, friends and sports—especially soccer, volleyball and tennis

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "Health care as a team sport—everyone is so encouraging and supportive of each other."

Ask Me About: Brazilian soccer and BBQ!

jpolido@chla.usc.edu



Sheela Rao, MD, MACM

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: St. Christopher's Hospital for Children

Academic/Research Interests: Vulnerable populations, children traversing through child welfare system, graduate medical education

Personal Interests: Bharata Natyam, hiking, my dog, traveling

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "It's very gratifying to work in a space where so many people are united in their commitment to the children and families we serve. My colleagues inspire me to think creatively about improving the health outcomes of our patients. I am inspired to show up and do the work to increase health equity on a population level."

Ask Me About: Foster Care Hub, working at AltaMed 3rd and Alvarado, public health
srao@chla.usc.edu



Niurka Rivero, MD

Chief Patient Safety Officer, Co-Director, Leadership and Professionalism Curriculum,
Department of Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of UXC

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Fellowship: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Creating leaders in medicine through personal mastery, creating a High Reliability Organization where psychological safety thrives and zero harm is always the goal

Personal Interests: Spending time with my family, my faith tradition, crafts, music

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "No question, the people. I love how we carry each other to serve our patients, families and teammates."

Ask Me About: Anything related to patient and team member safety, anything about how to lead in medicine through personal mastery

nrivero@chla.usc



Michele Roland, MD

Division of Adolescent Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Associate of Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Fellowship: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Health care and youth with spina bifida

Personal Interests: Long walks in beautiful places, hammock time, sewing, travel and learning about different cultures and foods

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The people."

mroland@chla.usc.edu



Christopher Russell, MD

Research Director, Division of Hospital Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: University of California, San Francisco

Academic/Research Interests: Respiratory infections in children with medical complexity, particularly children with tracheostomies

Personal Interests: Ballroom dancing, musical theater, live music and dance performances, travel

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "Working with exceptional colleagues and thankful families and patients."

Ask Me About: Being LGBTQ+ at CHLA and in Los Angeles, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) efforts at CHLA, clinical research at CHLA, pediatric hospital medicine

crussell@chla.usc.edu



Jonathan Santoro, MD

Director of Neuroimmunology and Demyelinating Disorders, Division of Neurology,
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency and Chief Residency: Stanford University

Fellowship: Harvard University

Academic/Research Interests: Neurologic complications of Down syndrome, pediatric onset multiple sclerosis, myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein (MOG) antibody spectrum disorders, autoimmune encephalitis

Personal Interests: hiking, backpacking

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "Our trainees!"

Ask Me About: Research and scholarly activities

jdsantoro@chla.usc.edu



Alvaro Serrano, MD

California Newborn Screening Program, Division of Medical Genetics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Pediatrics – Saint Barnabas Hospital, New York City, NY

Fellowship: Medical Genetics and Clinical Biochemical Genetics – UPMC Children's Hospital

Academic/Research Interests: Inborn errors of metabolism and rare orphan disorders and treatment including gene therapy

Personal Interests: Sightseeing with my wife and son

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The wide array of specialties and services available to patients. The care and compassion of the staff for patients."

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Nick Melvin Shillingford, MD

Director, Pediatric Pathology Fellowship Program, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency and Chief Residency: Anatomic Pathology – SUNY Downstate Medical Center

Fellowships: Surgical/Gastrointestinal Pathology – Brown University/Rhode Island Hospital; Pediatric Pathology – Harvard Medical School/Boston Children's Hospital

Academic/Research Interests: Medical education in pathology, inflammatory disorders of the gastrointestinal tract and liver, pediatric solid tumors

Personal Interests: Gardening, hiking, sightseeing

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "A great working environment with a special sense of camaraderie at all levels."

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Jasmine Smith, MD, MBA

Division of Hospital Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: University of Arizona College of Medicine, Phoenix Medicine

Chief Residency: Phoenix Children's Hospital

Academic/Research Interests: Adults with chronic diseases of childhood, business of medicine

Personal Interests: Financial literacy, health care finance, plant-based diets

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The diverse patient population, collegiality, and the mission to serve the underserved."

Ask Me About: Underrepresented minority (URM) recruitment and retention

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Michelle Thompson, MD, MACM

Director, Pediatric Residency Program, Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Clinician Educator), Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Academic/Research Interests: Medical education

Personal Interests: Reading, music, dogs

Favorite Thing About CHLA: "The people (staff and patients)! Learning something new EVERY day."

Ask Me About: Providing care for the medically underserved, careers in academic medicine

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Alaina Vidmar, MD

Medical Director, Healthy Weight Clinic, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism,
Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Residency: Medical College of Wisconsin

Academic/Research Interests: Improving patient outcomes through novel clinical approaches, behavioral interventions, prescriptive dietary regimens, and the use of pharmacotherapy for youth with overweight and obesity

Personal Interests: Playing outside with my family, running, cooking, singing

Favorite Thing About CHLA: “We are a family and support each other to provide the best care we can to our patients and families.”

Ask Me About: Being a physician mom!

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