

2017 PSC Partners' Annual Conference

Speaker-Bios

Kareem Abu-Elmagd, MD, PhD

Kareem Abu-Elmagd, MD, PhD, has joined the Department of General Surgery in the Digestive Disease and Surgery Institute as Director of the Intestinal Transplant Program. Dr. Abu-Elmagd has led the Intestinal Rehabilitation and Transplant Center at the University of Pittsburgh (UPMC) since its establishment in 1999 and has earned an international reputation for clinical and technical contributions to the field of transplantation. He has authored more than 300 original publications and 40 book chapters. He is an active member of 13 prominent professional and scientific societies.

In addition to his clinical and surgical expertise in the field of liver transplantation, Dr. Abu-Elmagd has also made significant global contributions to the field of portal hypertensive surgery. He played a pivotal role in the development and introduction of the immunosuppressive drug FK506, also known as Prograf.

Mahwish Ahmad

Mahwish U. Ahmad, MBBS, MPH, is a Research Fellow in the Department of Bioethics and deals specifically with transplant ethics at Cleveland Clinic's Main Campus. She is a physician by training, and is pursuing a transplant ethics fellowship looking at the intersection of transplant and other clinical issues with ethics while concurrently pursuing her research interests within the Center for Ethics, Humanities and Spiritual Care at Cleveland Clinic. Currently in her second year of fellowship, her primary areas of interest are pediatric transplantation, re-transplantation ethics, and motivations of living donors. She also is responsible for assisting in living donor ethics evaluations for the liver and kidney transplant programs, alongside teaching introductory Bioethics to new nursing personnel.

Federico Aucejo, MD

Federico Aucejo, MD, is a member of the Transplant Center in the Department of General Surgery at Cleveland Clinic's main campus. He joined the staff in 2006, subsequent to completing a fellowship in multiorgan transplantation at Cleveland Clinic. He is licensed in general surgery in Ohio and Argentina.

Dr. Aucejo's specialty interests include general surgery, liver transplantation, living donor liver transplantation (LDLT), pediatric liver transplantation and hepatocellular carcinoma.

A native of Argentina, Dr. Aucejo received his medical degree from Favaloro University in Buenos Aires, Argentina, graduating with Honors. He completed a residency and internship in his homeland. He then continued his medical training in New York City at Mount Sinai Medical Center with a fellowship in multiorgan transplantation.

Dr. Aucejo has been an investigator in research trials in his specialty areas. He has had numerous articles and abstracts published in leading medical journals. Additionally, he has given presentations at national and international conferences. Dr. Aucejo is a member of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, The

Transplant Society, The International Liver Transplant Society and the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases.

Stuart Barnett, AAMS[®], CFP[®]

Stuart Barnett was diagnosed with PSC in 2013. After his wife Debra quickly and easily found PSC Partners on Facebook he was amazed at the abundance of information and support that helped him cope with this mysterious disease. He attended his first conference in New Haven in 2016 and found the welcome amazing and comforting. That welcome never died down the entire conference and he and Debra left knowing that there was more to be done to help this cause and wanted to be involved immediately.

Stu graduated the University of Albany in NY in 1998 with a degree in Economics and is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER(TM) and VP- Sr. Financial Consultant for Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. He has 20 years of experience in the financial industry. When he is not helping people with their finances he is spending time with his 3 kids Jadon, Kaila and Emma (aka Little Red), and his wife Debra on Long Island where they live.

Scott Bea, PsyD

Scott Bea, Psy.D. is a practitioner of cognitive-behavioral psychotherapy and concentrates his clinical practice on anxiety and mood disorders. Dr. Bea is a psychotherapy trainer and supervisor in the Adult Psychiatry Residency Training Program at Cleveland Clinic. Additionally, Dr. Bea is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine.

Dr. Bea received his doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Florida Tech in 1986. He graduated following his internship at the Cleveland VA Medical Center. He has authored a variety of professional articles about anxiety conditions, psychotherapy, tinnitus, and training primary care physicians to make appropriate psychotherapy referrals.

Dr. Bea enjoys speaking to a wide variety of audiences. In particular, he enjoys helping others develop attitudinal strategies designed to reduce worry, limit frustration and promote a sense of contentment.

Elaine Bishop, MSN, CNM

Elaine Bishop, MSN, CNM is a Fetal Care Coordinator for the Cleveland Clinic Fetal Care Center. She works with families facing pregnancies complicated by fetal and/or maternal conditions requiring subspecialty care coordination. Additional areas of interest are communication in the healthcare setting and she facilitates communication courses through the Center for Excellence in Healthcare Communication. Elaine earned a post-baccalaureate certificate in nursing from Case Western Reserve University and a Master's Degree in Nurse-Midwifery from Vanderbilt University. She practiced full-scope Nurse-Midwifery in private practice prior to coming to CCF in 2013.

Jessica Bollinger, PharmD

Jessica Bollinger, PharmD, is a Clinical Specialist in the Department of Pharmacy at Cleveland Clinic's main campus, specializing in liver transplantation. Dr. Bollinger's areas of interest include liver transplantation, hepatitis B and C, transplant infectious diseases, and immunosuppression. Dr. Bollinger attended pharmacy school at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. After completing her Pharmacy Practice Residency at the University of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania, she returned to the Ohio State University to complete her specialty practice residency in Critical Care. She has been a caregiver at the Cleveland Clinic since 2007.

Dr. Christopher Bowlus, MD

Christopher L. Bowlus is Professor and Chief of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the University of California Davis School of Medicine. Dr. Bowlus completed his undergraduate education at the University of California San Diego and received his medical degree from St. Louis University. After completing his Internal Medicine training at UC Davis in 1993, he went on to Fellowship training in Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Yale University. There he worked on the Human Genome Project with emphasis on cloning genes in the region of the hemochromatosis gene. In 1998 he returned to UC Davis as an Assistant Professor and established himself as an international expert in autoimmune liver diseases, specifically primary biliary cholangitis (PBC) and primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC). Dr. Bowlus' has an active research program that focuses on 3 main areas: 1) elucidating the underlying genetic and immunologic causes of PBC and PSC; 2) developing new treatments for PBC and PSC; and 3) improving testing and care of Asian Americans with chronic hepatitis B through the use of community outreach and personalized medicine. His research is funded by the National Institutes of Health, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and industry sponsors. A respected educator, Dr. Bowlus served as the Gastroenterology Fellowship Program Director at UC Davis for over a decade and is the recipient of the Walter Trudeau Excellence in Teaching Award. Dr. Bowlus is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, the American Gastroenterology Association, and the American Association for the Study of Liver Disease.

Carol Burke, MD

Carol Burke, MD, completed medical school at the Ohio State University College of Medicine and Public Health, and residency at Riverside Methodist Hospital, both in Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Burke performed her Gastroenterology Fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic in 1993 and has been on the professional staff since that time.

Dr. Burke enjoys patient care, medical education and research, particularly in the area of colorectal polyp and cancer prevention. She is internationally known for her work in the polyposis syndromes and is the Director of the Center for colon polyp and cancer prevention and has been awarded research grants from the National Cancer Institute, American College of Gastroenterology, and Industry to name a few, to study the effects of chemopreventive agents on the prevention of intestinal neoplasia. She is the co-director of the multi-disciplinary Hereditary Cancer Clinic and provides consultations including risk assessment, and endoscopic evaluation and treatment for individuals with a hereditary predisposition to cancer.

She is the author of numerous peer reviewed manuscripts, abstracts, book chapters, and is a frequent reviewer for many digestive disease journals. She has served as a committee member, or chairperson in the American College of Gastroenterology, American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and is currently on the Board of Trustees for the American College of Gastroenterology.

Jeremy Burke, D.Mus., ALHC

Jeremy Burke is a Senior Learning Consultant with Aetna Group Insurance, supporting Aetna's Disability and Leave of Absence business. Jeremy has been with Aetna since 2002, spending five years as a claims administrator prior to moving to his current role supporting the training and development of claims staff. Prior to joining Aetna, Jeremy was a music educator and continues to perform as a classical saxophonist. He is currently in the process of scheduling and presenting several lecture recitals intended to help raise awareness of PSC and the need for organ donors. Jeremy's brother, Philip, introduced him to PSC Partners in 2012.

William Carey, MD

William D. Carey, M.D. M.A.C.G., is currently the senior hepatologist in the Department of Gastroenterology at Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio (former Director of the Hepatology (Liver) Center). Dr. Carey also serves as the Director for Cleveland Clinic's Center for Continuing Medical Education. Dr. Carey is board-certified in internal medicine and gastroenterology, and specializes in liver disease, including medical management of liver transplantation and endoscopy.

After graduating from Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston, Dr. Carey completed his residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in nephrology at Presbyterian Hospital in San Francisco. He also completed a fellowship in gastroenterology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

He is Past-President of the American College of Gastroenterology, and is active in many other professional groups, including the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases, the American Gastroenterological Association, the American College of Physicians, and the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. He is a delegate to the American Medical Association.

Srinivasan Dasarathy, MD

Dr. Dasarathy's primary interest is in the management of patients waiting for liver transplantation and during the post--liver-transplant period. He has a special interest in the treatment of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. Dr. Dasarathy serves on the Educational Committee of the American Association of the Study of Liver Diseases.

Anthony DeRoss, MD, FACS, FAAP

Dr. DeRoss has been a staff pediatric surgeon at the Cleveland Clinic since 2013. He completed his general surgery at the University of Vermont in Burlington, VT, and his pediatric surgery fellowship at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia, PA. He has an interest in the surgical management of pediatric patients with inflammatory bowel disease, and he is an active participant in the Combined Pediatric and Colorectal Clinic. The combined clinic was designed to help children, teens, and young adults with colorectal disorders transition to adulthood, and it facilitates multidisciplinary management by both adult colorectal and pediatric general surgeons, specialized nurses, gastroenterologists, psychologists, and nutritionists.

Cindy Dunn, Certified Instructor, T'ai Chi Chih®

Ms. Dunn began her practice of T'ai Chi Chih® in February, 2003, and attained her teacher's accreditation in March, 2005. Her teachers include Sandy McAlister and Justin Stone, the originator of T'ai Chi Chih®. She has trained college faculty and staff, young adults, children, senior citizens, and the visually and hearing impaired. Ms. Dunn also teaches seated classes at rehabilitation facilities. She is an instructor of T'ai Chi Chih® at South Plains College in Levelland, Texas. She co-owns and manages Family Vision and Wellness Center in Lubbock, Texas.

Bijan Eghtesad, MD

Bijan Eghtesad, MD, is a Staff Surgeon in the Departments of General Surgery and Transplantation at Cleveland Clinic's main campus, performing hepatobiliary surgery and liver transplantation. Dr. Eghtesad's areas of interest include liver transplantation, hepatitis B and C, liver transplantation in HIV-positive patients, living donor liver transplantation, immunosuppression, and organ donation, recovery and preservation.

Dr. Eghtesad attended medical school at Shiraz University Faculty of Medicine in Shiraz, Iran. After completing his internship and residency at Shiraz University, he completed a fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center/Thoms E. Starzl Transplantation Institute in Pittsburgh, Pa., and a fellowship in transplantation at the University of Pittsburgh Children's Hospital. He was appointed to Cleveland Clinic in 2005.

Anne Feldman, CNP

Anne D. Feldman NP-C is an Adult-Gero Nurse Practitioner in the Digestive Disease Institute (DDI) at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation (CCF) main campus. She works primarily with Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Pouchitis patients. She received her BSN-RN from the University of Maryland, School of Nursing and her MSN-NP from Kent State University. She has been at CCF since 2000 and with the DDI since 2016.

Donna Ferchill, RN, BSN

Donna Ferchill, RN, BSN is the Clinical Nurse Manager for the Adult and Pediatric Liver Transplant Program and the Living Donor Liver Transplant Program at the Cleveland Clinic. She has been with the Cleveland Clinic for a total of seven years functioning as a Pre-Liver Transplant Coordinator for both Liver and Kidney Transplant Programs and as a Living Liver Donor Coordinator. She has been in her current role of Clinical Nurse Manager since 2016. She is responsible for administrative and regulatory management for the Liver Transplant programs while also maintaining an active clinical transplant coordinator role within the Living Donor Program. Previously she worked at Rush Presbyterian Medical Center in Chicago and was an Outpatient Liver Transplant Coordinator until 2003 and prior to that she worked as an Inpatient Transplant Coordinator for over five years at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Additionally, she is a current member of Liver Transplant QAPI and the Donor Advocacy Team.

Donna holds a Bachelors of Science in Nursing from Northern Illinois University. She is a member of NATCO and ITNS as well as an elected member of the UNOS Transplant Coordinators Committee (TCC) since 2015 and serves on workgroups within the TCC.

Koji Hashimoto, MD, PhD

Dr. Hashimoto completed his medical school training at the Kyushu University Faculty of Medicine in 1995. He completed his general surgery residency in 1997 before enrolling in a graduate student program leading to his PhD in 2001. He joined the Hiroshima Red Cross Hospital before being accepted in the ASTS approved multiorgan transplant fellowship training program at the Cleveland Clinic in 2006. After completing his training in 2008, he remained at the Cleveland Clinic as the Living Donor Liver Transplant Clinical Scholar. He is now Associate Staff at the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Hashimoto holds board certification by the Japan Board of Surgery and certification by the American Society of Transplant Surgeons. He is a member of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the American Society of Transplantation, the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases, the Transplantation Society, the American Medical Association, the Japan Surgical Society, the Japanese Society for Transplantation and the Japanese Society of Gastroenterological Surgery. Dr Hashimoto has already published over 60 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals such as: American Journal of Transplantation, Liver Transplantation, Annals of Surgery, Surgery, Gene Therapy, Liver International, Journal of Hepatology, Cancer, Transplantation, Transplant International, Journal of General Virology, Virology, and Journal of Virology.

Aunna Herbst, DO

Dr. Herbst has been a practitioner of functional medicine for sixteen years. Before attending medical school, she had a business for lifestyle counseling that included nutrition consultation and naturopathic medicine. She has since continued to study integrative medicine and functional medicine and recently fulfilled an understudy with infectious disease for chronic tick illness.

Dr. Herbst has a focus on pediatrics, fibromyalgia and chronic fatigue.

Tracy Hull, MD

Tracy Hull, MD, has been Staff Surgeon in the Department of Colon and Rectal Surgery at Cleveland Clinic since 1993. She is the Section Chief of Inflammatory Bowel Disease within the Department and holds the Thomas and Sandra Sullivan Family Endowed Chair in Inflammatory Bowel Disease. She received her Doctorate of Medicine, *cum laude*, from The Ohio State University in 1986. She did her surgical residency at SUNY Syracuse, New York from 1986-1991. Her fellowship was done at Cleveland Clinic from 1991-1992.

Dr. Hull is active in numerous professional societies including Alpha Omega Alpha, the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, the American College of Surgeon and many others. She currently serves as the secretary for the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons. She also is the chair of the Written Examination committee for the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery.

She has authored numerous peer reviewed articles, and many book chapters, and been the editor of two text books on colon and rectal surgery. She also specializes in surgically treating patients with ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, pelvic floor dysfunction, among other colorectal diseases.

Annette Humberson, LISW-S, CCTSW

Annette Humberson, LISW-S, CCTSW is a Liver Transplant Social Worker at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, OH. Annette has been a medical social worker for 22 years; the last 12 years have been on the Liver Transplant Team. Annette has a Master's graduate from The Ohio State University School of Social Work as well as Bachelor Degrees in Social Work and Biology.

She is a member of the Ohio Transplant Consortium Chemical Dependency Board, the Exhibitor Chair for the Society of Transplant Social Workers Board, and was a member of the UNOS Patient Affairs Committee. She is also the Chair for the Liver Transplant Caregivers Advisory Committee.

Vera Hupertz, MD

Vera F. Hupertz, MD, is a Staff Physician and Pediatric Medical Director of Hepatology and Liver Transplantation at Cleveland Clinic's main campus. She is board-certified in pediatrics, pediatric gastroenterology, and pediatric transplant hepatology. Dr. Hupertz was appointed to the Cleveland Clinic in 2000. In 2009, she became the Quality Review Officer for the Children's Hospital and is currently the Vice Chair of Quality Improvement.

Her primary areas of interest are pediatric liver disease, transplantation, and inflammatory bowel disease. She also is responsible for maintaining a safe environment in the Children's Hospital as well as making sure the hospital meets current safety and quality standards.

Sunguk Jang, MD

Sunguk Jang, MD, is a Staff physician in the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Cleveland Clinic's main campus. Dr. Jang is board-certified in gastroenterology and internal medicine. He completed his residency at University of Maryland and went on to complete a fellowship in Gastroenterology at Drexel University College of Medicine and an additional fellowship at Cleveland Clinic in Gastroenterology/Advanced Endoscopy. Dr. Jang has been with Cleveland Clinic since 2007.

Barbara Kaplan, MD

Biography Unavailable

Karen Kerepesi, PA-C

Biography Unavailable

Bette Klein - MS,RD,CSP,LD - Advanced Practice Pediatric Nutrition Support Dietitian

Bette Klein obtained her bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University and internship at the University of Kentucky. She obtained a Master's degree in Nutrition from the University of Akron and has worked extensively in pediatrics over the past 35 years. She has a diversified pediatric background with experience at Denver Children's Hospital and Akron Children's Hospital. For the past 10 years, she has been working at Cleveland Clinic Children's as an advanced practitioner with Pediatric GI.

Katherine Lamparyk, PsyD

Katherine Lamparyk, Psy.D. is a pediatric psychologist within the Center for Pediatric Behavioral Health. She serves as the director of the Learning Evaluation and Consultation Clinic at Shaker Campus and as the primary psychological consultant for the departments of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Pediatric Pulmonology.

Dr. Lamparyk specializes in child and adolescent pediatric psychology. Her clinical time is divided between Shaker Campus, where she conducts evaluations for children and adolescents with learning difficulties, and the main campus. In this role, Dr. Lamparyk sees pediatric patients suffering from chronic digestive and pulmonary diseases, abdominal pain, Vocal Cord Dysfunction, and toileting issues. Dr. Lamparyk also serves as the psychologist for the Fit Youth program at the Beachwood Family Health Center.

Beyond her clinical work, Dr. Lamparyk's research interests focus on the relationship between physical and psychological health and monitoring clinical efficacy. She has presented her research at the state and national levels and is an active member of several professional organizations including the Society of Pediatric

Psychology, American Psychological Association, and the International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders. Dr. Lamparyk completed her residency through the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital and earned her doctoral degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, although she is a Cleveland native.

Bret Lashner, MD

Bret A. Lashner, MD, is Director of the Center for Inflammatory Bowel Disease in the Department of Gastroenterology at Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Lashner is board-certified in internal medicine and gastroenterology, and he specializes in ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, and general gastrointestinal disease. In 1999, he was awarded the Premier Physician Award from the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America.

A frequent lecturer at national and international meetings, Dr. Lashner also serves on the editorial boards of peer-reviewed publications, including the *American Journal of Gastroenterology*, *Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology* and *Inflammatory Bowel Diseases*. He has served as principal investigator for many clinical trials on inflammatory bowel disease and has published extensively on clinical aspects of inflammatory bowel disease.

Dr. Lashner is a member of the American Gastroenterological Association, American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America. He is a fellow of the American College of Gastroenterology.

Dr. Lashner received his medical degree from New York University and completed his internal medicine residency at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia. He completed a fellowship in gastroenterology at the University of Chicago, and obtained his Master of Public Health from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Lori Mahajan, MD

Lori A. Mahajan, MD, is Director of the Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship Program and a Staff Physician in the Department of Pediatric Gastroenterology at Cleveland Clinic.

Her treatment interests include recurrent abdominal pain of childhood, acid-peptic disorders including gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), failure to thrive, feeding and swallowing disorders, inflammatory bowel disease, allergic gastroenteritis including milk and soy protein allergy as well as eosinophilic esophagitis, diarrhea, constipation, celiac disease, nutrition services, lactose intolerance, pancreatic disease and pediatric enteral access.

Dr. Mahajan's specialty procedural interests include diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy as well as wireless capsule endoscopy.

She is specialty board-certified by the American Board of Pediatrics and certified in the subspecialty of pediatric gastroenterology. She is BLS Certified and PALS Certified.

K.V. Narayanan Menon, MD

K.V. Narayanan Menon, MD, is the Medical Director of Liver Transplantation in the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Menon has completed subspecialty training in Advanced Endoscopy and Hepatology. He is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of the Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Menon's specialty interests include liver transplantation, liver and bile duct cancer, advanced endoscopy, and advanced liver disease.

Veronica Miller, PhD

Forum for Collaborative Research and University of California Berkeley School of Public Health

Veronica Miller is the Executive Director of the Forum for Collaborative Research (the Forum), a public/private partnership addressing cutting edge science and policy issues through a process of stakeholder engagement and deliberation.

Dr. Miller has extensive experience in working with all major global and U.S. organizations and agencies involved in HIV research and policy. An expert in regulatory science and drug development, she is accomplished in the process of engaging stakeholders from both sides of the Atlantic to resolve significant health policy and public health issues in the areas of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, human cytomegalovirus disease in solid organ and stem cell transplant patients, and liver diseases (NASH and fibrosis).

Dr. Miller is a Senior Researcher and Lecturer at the UC Berkeley School of Public Health. She developed and teaches a course on FDA and Drug Development based on case studies from the Forum's rich history in facilitating drug development to Berkeley and Bay Area graduate students and post-docs. She mentors interns and fellows pursuing regulatory, biotech and translational medicine careers.

Dr. Miller has served on numerous government and industry advisory boards. She has published over 90 peer-reviewed publications on treatment and regulatory strategies.

Dr. Miller obtained a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology from the University of Manitoba, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Immunology from the University of Manitoba.

Ashley Neuman, PCC-S

Ashley holds a BA in Human Ecology from The Ohio State University, a Master's in Community Counseling from John Carroll University. She is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor with Supervisory designation in the State of Ohio. Ashley has been with the Clinic for 11 years over all and, previous to her current position as Account Executive in the Wellness Enterprise, was EAP Counselor for Caring for Caregivers where she provided direct service to Clinic employees and their dependents. Ashley's clinical practice draws focus on stress management as an instrumental tool for helping people improve their ability to live a healthier lifestyle.

Natesh Parashurama, MD, PhD

Natesh received his BS from MIT, his MD (1999) from University at Buffalo, General Surgery training at Boston University (2001) and his PhD (2008) from Rutgers University and Harvard Medical School, with postdoctoral research at Stanford University (2012) and University of California, San Francisco (2015). He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering/Department of Medicine at UB where his group's research is directed towards using human pluripotent stem cells to build three-dimensional liver tissue in vitro and in vivo.

Lisa D. Pedicone, PhD

Lisa received her bachelor degree in biochemistry from Smith College and her doctorate degree in neuropharmacology from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

Lisa spent 16 years at Schering-Plough Corporation and Merck & Co. During her 16 years, she worked in Global Regulatory Affairs, Clinical Research (Phase II/III), Global Medical Affairs and Global Scientific Affairs. While in Clinical Research, she oversaw the clinical development of late-stage products including the approval of two new chemical entities. In Global Medical Affairs, she was Vice President and oversaw a team of 15 regional medical directors overseeing global medical strategy for all specialty products. Her primary focus since 2006 has been liver disease and she oversaw the global strategy for all Phase IV, continuing medical education (CME), scientific publications and advisory boards for liver disease. In 2012 she became an independent consultant and has focused her attention on medical education and life cycle management in liver disease for specialty medical practices and the pharmaceutical industry.

Lisa is a member of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) and has co-authored more than 35 publications in journals including New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet, Gastroenterology, Hepatology, Journal of Hepatology, and Clinical Infectious Diseases.

Lisa is also the mom of a 16-year-old, Alex, who was diagnosed with Crohn's disease and PSC in 2011.

Uma Perni, MD, MPH

Uma Perni MD, MPH is a sub-specialist in Maternal-Fetal Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic Women's Health Institute. In her practice, Dr. Perni cares for women with various pregnancy complications both maternal and fetal in addition to performing fetal ultrasounds. She also serves as the vice-chair of Obstetrics & Gynecology at Hillcrest Hospital. Dr. Perni's areas of interest include hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, maternal medical problems during pregnancy, and prenatal ultrasound.

Dr. Perni attended medical school at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. After completing a residency in Obstetrics & Gynecology at MCP/Hahnemann University, she practiced for several years prior to completing her Maternal-Fetal Medicine fellowship at the University of Michigan. She joined the staff at the Cleveland Clinic in 2011.

Jessica Philpott, MD, PhD

Jessica Philpott MD, PhD is a gastroenterologist who provides care at that Cleveland Clinic Main and Avon campuses in the division of Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Her areas of interest include Crohn's disease, Ulcerative colitis and other forms of inflammatory bowel disease with particular interest in transitional care from Pediatric to Adult medicine and pouchitis.

Dr Philpott earned an MD and PhD from The Ohio State University, and underwent post graduate training at The Ohio State University, University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and University of Oklahoma. She was appointed to Cleveland Clinic in 2012.

Mathilde Pioro, MD

Mathilde Pioro, MD, is a rheumatologist in the Orthopedic & Rheumatologic Institute at Cleveland Clinic's main campus. She specializes in rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, spondylitis, gout, connective tissue disorders, and metabolic bone disease. Dr. Pioro graduated from McGill University in Montreal. She completed her Rheumatology Fellowship at Cleveland Clinic and Graduate work at Case Western Reserve University. She is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University, and is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Rheumatology.

Kadakkal Radhakrishnan, MD

Dr. Kadakkal Radhakrishnan, MBBS, MD (Peds), DCH, MRCP (UK), MRCPCH, FAAP, is a Pediatric Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist at Cleveland Clinic. He was born in Trivandrum, Kerala, India. Dr. Radhakrishnan has been on Faculty in the Department of Pediatric Gastroenterology at Cleveland Clinic since June 2006. He also has joint appointment as Assistant Professor at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University.

Dr. Radhakrishnan's areas of interest involve liver disorders in children, care of children after liver transplantation and small-bowel transplantation. He also has an interest in metabolic disorders involving the liver and care of gastrointestinal manifestations in children with metabolic disorders. Dr. Radhakrishnan, however, follows all types of pediatric gastroenterology problems in his clinic. He also performs upper and lower endoscopy and endoscopically places gastrostomy feeding tubes. In conjunction with Dr. Sumit Parikh from Pediatric Neurology, he runs the Cyclic Vomiting Syndrome Clinic for children.

Dr. Radhakrishnan completed his basic medical training at Medical College Trivandrum, Kerala, India, in 1992. He subsequently trained in pediatrics at S.A.T Hospital affiliated with the Medical College Trivandrum, India. Dr. Radhakrishnan underwent further training in pediatrics in the United Kingdom for over 4 years, and after passing his Pediatrics Board was made a Member of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCP) and Member of the Royal College of Pediatrics and Child Health (MRCPCH). Dr. Radhakrishnan is board-certified in pediatrics in the United States after completing his residency at Cleveland Clinic. He completed fellowship training in pediatric gastroenterology and hepatology at Cleveland Clinic and is also board certified in Pediatric Gastroenterology and in Pediatric Transplant Hepatology. His pediatric experience spans over 19 years, and he has over 8 years of pediatric gastroenterology experience.

Dr. Radhakrishnan is a keen teacher involved in the teaching of medical students, residents and fellows. He was voted by the pediatric residents at Cleveland Clinic as Staff Teacher of the Year for 2007. Dr. Radhakrishnan's research areas include liver disorders and inflammatory bowel disease.

Michael Roizen, MD

Michael F. Roizen, MD, is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Williams College and Alpha Omega Alpha graduate of the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine. He performed his residency in internal medicine at Harvard's Beth Israel Hospital and completed Public Health Service at the National Institutes of Health in the laboratory of Irv Kopin and Nobel Prize winner Julius Axelrod. He is certified by both the American Boards of Internal Medicine and of Anesthesiology.

After nine years on the faculty at the University of California, San Francisco, he chaired the Department of Anesthesia and Critical Care at the University of Chicago. He then became Dean of the School of Medicine and Vice President for Biomedical Sciences at SUNY Upstate. In 2007, Dr. Roizen was named Chief Wellness Officer at Cleveland Clinic, the first such position in a major healthcare institution in the United States. Dr. Roizen also serves as Chairman of the Wellness Institute at Cleveland Clinic.

His first general-audience book, *RealAge: Are You as Young as You Can Be?* (HarperCollins Publishers) became a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and was awarded the Best Wellness Book of 1999 by the Books for a Better Life Awards.

Dr. Roizen still practices anesthesiology and internal medicine. The Wellness Institute that he chairs includes Employee Health and Wellness, the Department of Preventive Medicine, Premium Access Programs, Disease Reversal and Integrative Medicine Programs, and the Wellness Public Policy and Community Support Programs of Cleveland Clinic. Cleveland Clinic Wellness institute aims to elevate preventive care and wellness as a core brand of Cleveland Clinic and a core value we teach our patients and employees.

Carlos Romero-Marrero, MD

Carlos Romero-Marrero, MD, is the Section Head of Cleveland Clinic's Hepatology Department. Dr. Romero completed medical school and residency in his home of Puerto Rico, at University of Puerto Rico. He completed subspecialty training in gastroenterology and transplant hepatology at Mayo Clinic and has been with Cleveland Clinic since 2011. Dr. Romero's specialty interests include viral hepatitis, cirrhosis of the liver, and liver cancer. Fluent in Spanish, Dr. Romero has established a Hispanic clinic at Lutheran Hospital.

Ricky Safer

After having led the life of a health nut for decades, Ricky Safer was shocked to receive her PSC diagnosis in 2003, and then to discover that there was little accurate information or support available for PSC patients. Still reeling from her recent diagnosis, Ms. Safer decided that she did not want to wait around to see if things would improve. In 2004, with the help of her family, her hepatologist (Dr. Everson) and two friends from the support group (Lee Bria and David Rhodes), Ms. Safer co-founded PSC Partners Seeking A Cure. Ms. Safer's years of volunteering with CCFA locally and nationally and her position on the board of the Donor Awareness Council provided her with the background to get PSC Partners Seeking a Cure off the ground. Ms. Safer has served on the Nutritional Panel for CCFA, and also received the CCFA Sigman award.

Ms. Safer feels extremely lucky to have her family as her loyal support group and constant helpers. One of her greatest joys is spending time with her family—her husband (Don), daughter and son-in-law (Elissa and Steven), son and daughter-in-law (Adam and Sue), and grandkids (Sam, Lily, Rowan and Hudson). Ms.

Safer enjoys her role as CEO of PSC Partners, and continues to be passionate about finding a cure for PSC, and making life better for all PSCers. In Ms. Safer's other life, she teaches foreign languages and provides cross-cultural training at the University of Denver. Ms. Safer received her B.A. in French with honors from the University of Michigan, and her Master of Arts in Teaching from Johns Hopkins University. Ricky can be reached at contactus@pscpartners.org.

Madhusudhan Sanaka, MD

Madhusudhan Sanaka, MD, is the Medical Director of the Center for Advanced Endoscopy in the Digestive Disease and Surgical Institute. His specialty interests include therapeutic endoscopy, Per-Oral Endoscopic Myotomy for Achalasia, Endoscopic submucosal dissection, EMR, pancreaticobiliary endoscopy, early gastrointestinal cancers, EUS, ERCP, enteral stenting and difficult polypectomy.

Dr. Sanaka earned his medical degree from Osmania Medical College, University of Health Sciences in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India.

He completed an Internal Medicine internship and residency at Metropolitan Hospital Center in New York. He also completed a Gastroenterology fellowship at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio, as well as an Advanced Endoscopy fellowship at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, Penn.

Dr. Sanaka is board certified in Gastroenterology and Internal Medicine.

He currently is conducting several research studies, including quality improvement and outcomes of Per Oral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM) for Achalasia, studies on adenoma detection rates, outcomes of ERCP and EUS, Esophageal stenting, long-term efficacy of EMR and polypectomy techniques among several others. He has published over 50 articles in peer-reviewed journals on various topics in gastroenterology and has presented multiple times on digestive diseases and gastroenterology.

Carol Santalucia

Carol Santalucia is a seasoned healthcare leader with a passion for and commitment to enhancing the patient experience. During a 28-year career at Cleveland Clinic, Carol held various service excellence and leadership roles, including the formation of Cleveland Clinic's Service Excellence Department and creation of the Respond with H.E.A.R.T. Program. In 2011, Carol began her own consulting practice, Santalucia Group, LLC, where she and her team worked nationwide to improve the experience for patients, families and employees at over 40 organizations. Recently Carol returned to Cleveland Clinic as Director of Service Excellence and Culture. She is happy to be back "home" and excited to continue enhancing Cleveland Clinic's culture through empathetic communication.

Carol received an MBA in Healthcare Administration from Cleveland State University and a BS in Psychology from Denison University. She is a past President of the Society for Healthcare Consumer Advocacy and the Ohio Society for Healthcare Consumer Advocacy. Carol is a Board Member of the American College of Healthcare Executives of Northern Ohio and serves on the Executive Board of The Beryl Institute. She is also the President and Founder of The Carmella Rose Health Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people navigate the healthcare system.

Bo Shen, MD

Bo Shen, MD, is a Staff Member of the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. His specialty interests include inflammatory bowel disease, GI endoscopy and imaging technology, and pouchitis and pouch diseases.

Dr. Shen earned his medical degree from Nantong Medical College in Jiangsu, China. He completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at Nantong Medical College Hospital in China, a residency in internal medicine at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in Urbana, Ill. He also completed a fellowship in the Department of Gastroenterology at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio.

He holds a general certification by the American Board of Internal Medicine, as well as a specialized certification in gastroenterology.

He has secured grants for multiple research projects including an investigation of blood-brain barrier in acute hepatic failure, clinical approach to ileal pouch dysfunction, inflammatory bowel disease, and chronic lymphoid leukemia subtypes, among others.

Dr. Shen is a member of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America, the American Gastroenterological Association, the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and the American College of Gastroenterology.

Dustin Thompson, MD

Dustin Thompson, MD is a Staff Interventional Radiologist at the Cleveland Clinic's main campus and surrounding regional hospitals. Dr. Thompson specializes in x-ray and ultrasound guided minimally invasive procedures. His areas of interest include treatment of biliary obstruction and bile duct injury, enterocutaneous fistulae, vascular malformations, peritoneal dialysis and urinary interventions. Dr. Thompson attended medical school at the Keck School of Medicine/University of Southern California, Los Angeles. He completed a preliminary year of surgical training at Kaiser Permanente in Hollywood, California followed by a residency in diagnostic radiology at the Detroit Medical Center/Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. He then trained in the fellowship program for Interventional Radiology at the Cleveland Clinic and subsequently was appointed staff in 2013.

Alok Vij, MD

Alok Vij, MD, is a staff dermatologist in the Department of Dermatology at Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Vij practices at Main Campus and the Richard E Jacobs Family Health Center in Avon. His areas of interest include pruritus, cutaneous lymphoma, melanoma, and non-melanoma skin cancer. Dr. Vij performs dermatologic surgery, including Mohs surgery, laser surgery, and other minimally invasive cosmetic treatments. Dr. Vij attended medical school at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. He completed his internship, residency in dermatology, and fellowship in Mohs micrographic surgery and dermatologic oncology at the Cleveland Clinic. He was appointed to the Cleveland Clinic Professional Staff in 2016.

April Waby, PA-C

Biography Unavailable

Harneet Walia, MD

Harneet Walia, MD, FAASM is an Assistant Professor in the Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University (CCLCM) where she subspecializes in diagnoses and treatment of complex sleep disorders. She is a Staff at the Center for Sleep Disorders in the Neurological Institute, Cleveland Clinic. She is board-certified by the American Board of Family Medicine and has additional board certification in Sleep Medicine.

Dr. Walia received her MD degree from the Kasturba Medical College, India. She completed her residency at St. Elizabeth Health Center and fellowship training at the University Hospitals of Cleveland, Case Western Reserve University.

Dr. Walia's research focuses on the association of obstructive sleep apnea and cardiovascular disorders particularly resistant hypertension. She is also actively involved in research related to patient reported outcomes in relationship to treatment of sleep disordered breathing. She is currently involved in several clinical trials elucidating the relationship between sleep disordered breathing and resistant hypertension to devise new interventions for effective management of hypertension in this patient population. Her results have been presented nationally and have resulted in numerous abstracts, manuscripts and book chapters.

Dr. Walia has given numerous presentations on the topics related to sleep disorders regionally and nationally. She is involved in media relations to increase awareness of sleep disorders and has appeared on numerous national news broadcasts. She also serves as a Medical Director for the Lorain sleep laboratory of Cleveland Clinic. She mentors sleep medicine fellows and serves as reviewer on multiple journals including Sleep and Breathing, American Family Physician, Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine and Journal of Clinical Sleep Research.