

UPDATES FROM YOUR USF HEALTH PHYSICIAN AND PROVIDER RELATIONS TEAM

USFHealth

This marks the 42nd volume of The Monthly Newsletter. Thank you for all your contributions and updates regarding the POC List. This is your reference for making internal referrals, please use it. Data shows we have generated over 50,000 internal referrals in FY 2024. This is critical information; you can click on the link below to view the PDF. If you notice any more updates, please send them directly to me at grathbun@usf.edu

Please note Providers: We are relying on you to input all appropriate data when filling out an internal referral.

*Thank you,
Gina*

January: [Point of Contact \(POC List\)](#)

The **Patient Access Contact Center POC (Point of Contact)** is for your reference and internal referrals. The link below will provide you with key POC contacts for each clinical specialty (as provided by the department). The POCs ensure that when contacted they use their best effort to accommodate the patient request for referrals or information. Report any errors, changes, or additions to Gina Rathbun

at grathbun@usf.edu. Changes will be reflected in the next distribution.

Please refer to this list for referral information within USF Health or visit us at: <https://health.usf.edu/care/medical-professionals>

Provider Relations Team Members

Gina Rathbun, M.A., Director, Physician Relations Coordination and Outreach grathbun@usf.edu

USF Health physicians and healthcare providers,

The [The USF Health Physician Directory by Specialty and Other Healthcare Professionals](#) is comprised of credentialed USF physicians and other health care professionals. Entries in the directory are listed by “specialty” and not by department and are generated from our Cactus database. At the end of the document, you will find a convenient alphabetical index for quick reference.

Please use the directory as a resource; it is also available at our website for [download or print](#). We encourage you to share this helpful resource when referring to USF Health physicians and other health care professional providers. To view the downloadable link to the physician directory by specialty on the provider referring page, please visit: <https://health.usf.edu/care/medical-professionals>.

Please Share the directory with your contacts and submit any questions or changes to me at grathbun@usf.edu.

As always, thank you for entrusting us with the care of your patients.

Faculty Directory

Login using your USF username and password [here](#)

[Faculty Directory 3.0 FAQ](#)

[Faculty Directory 3.0- How to edit profiles and manage proxies](#)

[Provider Relations Newsletter Guidelines](#)

MEET OUR NEW PROVIDERS

USF Health Welcomes:

Akshaya Kannan Singh, MD, MPP
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Division of Specialists in General OB/GYN

USFHealth



**Akshaya Kannan Singh, MD,
MPP Department of
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Division of Specialists in
General OB/GYN**

The Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology is thrilled to welcome Dr. Akshaya Kannan Singh as an Assistant Professor in the Specialists in General OB/GYN Division, effective January 6, 2025. Dr. Singh earned her medical degree from Emory University School of Medicine where she was a Robert W. Woodruff Fellow. She also pursued a Master's degree in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School. She completed her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of California, San Francisco, where she served as Administrative Chief during her final year. Dr. Singh's professional interests include health policy and advocacy, medical education, and providing full spectrum reproductive health care. Dr. Singh will be seeing patients at the South Tampa Center.

For appointments please call: 813-821-8019 Email Address:
akshayasingh@usf.edu

In an effort to introduce our new faculty to staff, a brief biography about them has been prepared. By providing you with more information about them, it is our hope we will become more familiar with their services as part of the USF Health Care team.

2025 Jan. - April Headshot Schedule Faculty Headshot Schedule

Faculty Office Building 2161 (FOB)*

Jan. 10
Feb. 7
Mar. 7
April 4

South Tampa Center 7031 (STC)

Jan. 24
Feb. 21
Mar. 21
April 18

- All sessions are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Please bring your own USF Health branded white coat. Lab coats cannot be provided.
- Walk-ins are welcome! No appointment is necessary for these photo sessions, which are meant for attending physicians, senior staff and faculty.

** Please note, USF Health's Faculty Office Building may show up on USF maps and Google maps as MDF.*

Headshots and What to Expect

USF has changed its digital asset management system so headshots taken by our team will now be stored in the new platform called Bynder.

Here is the link to the gallery that holds USF Health faculty headshots:

<https://brand.usf.edu/web/137c7104baf7bca4/provider-headshots/>

As a reminder:

- Headshots sessions are provided for USF Health faculty and are held about twice a month at two locations – South Tampa Center (STC) next to Tampa General and the Faculty Office Building (MDF) across from the Morsani Center on the USF campus in north Tampa.
- Photos will be available 7-10 business days after the photo shoot.
- A link to the gallery in Bynder will be emailed to those who attended the photo session:
<https://brand.usf.edu/web/137c7104baf7bca4/provider-headshots/>
- The faculty member should share the photo upon receiving with the department administrator for use on websites.
- Once in the gallery, you can find the photo by:
 - Using the search option (field at the top of the page) to search by the last name.
 - Using the sorting option (just above the photos) to sort by date, name, etc.
- Click on the photo, and then click the green download button.
- Use the photo to update your profiles in both Kyruus and Faculty Directory.

USF HEALTH RESEARCH STUDY ALERTS

Please submit your Research Study Alerts
to ginarathbun@usf.edu

USF HEALTH NEWS

From Black Robe to White Coat, a chance to learn from each other.



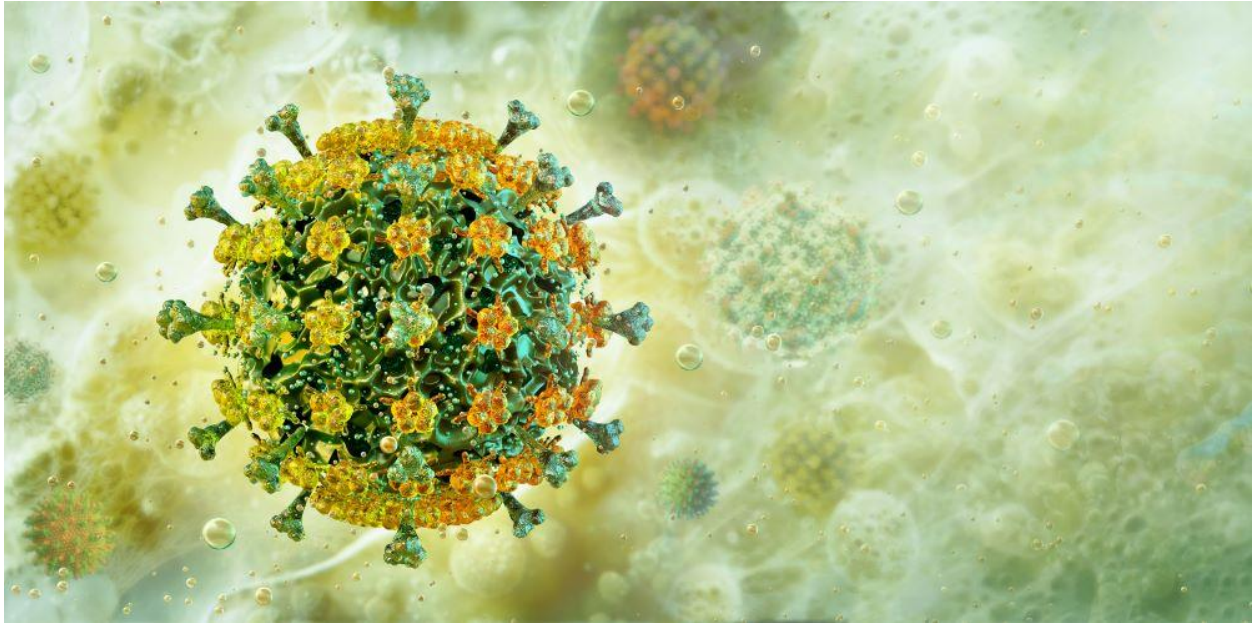
-- Photos courtesy of the 13th Judicial Circuit

USF Health faculty and students met with lawyers and judges on last week's 20th annual Black Robe Day.

- Read more [here](#).

Blog Post from Dr. Charles J. Lockwood, MD, MHCM.

H5N1: How worried should we be?



While the virus is evolving, we are not facing an immediate pandemic but must remain vigilant, say experts at USF Health, as they evaluate the virus's potential to mutate and spread and the response plans needed to stay prepared.

Read the story [here](#).

Story by: Nora Samaranayake

USF Health launches state-funded hyperbaric oxygen therapy trial with first patient.



USF Health welcomed its first participants of a \$28 million state-funded clinical trial to study the effectiveness of hyperbaric oxygen therapy on Florida service members and veterans who suffer from traumatic brain injury. The scope of this ambitious project is recognized nationally as one of the most rigorous studies of its kind with long-term results that could reshape the narrative of hyperbaric oxygen therapy as a treatment of neurological diseases.

Read the story [here](#). Story and Photos by: Freddie Coleman

2024 marks a decade of growth for USF Health under leadership of Charles J. Lockwood



In 2014, Dr. Lockwood arrived on campus to lead USF Health and become dean of the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine. He never looked back. In the decade since, USF Health has transformed – making historic improvements and expansions in every arena.

Read the story [here](#).

Story By: Lisa Greene Smith

BOOK OF THE MONTH

USF Health and the Shimberg Health Sciences Library

Celebrate our Published Faculty!

Over 135 Faculty Authors have participated in the Book of the Month! And over \$20,000 in book donations. This serves as a great resource for Providers, MCOM Students, and faculty.

USF Health Physicians and Professional Healthcare Providers are invited to submit their scholarly published books to the Book of the Month: Contributions to the Field Collection

USF HEALTH AND THE
SHIMBERG HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY

PRESENT



USFHealth

BOOK OF THE MONTH

- Donate your book to the Library's permanent collection to be made available as a resource for circulation and/or reserve.
- The book will be featured at the Library for one month, and selected books displayed at the Carol and Frank Morsani Center.
- An "about the book and author" flyer is distributed via e-blast and social media to our USF Health community.
- The book will be featured on the Library's website and can be available for purchase at the USF Health Bookstore.


To submit your title, or for more information, please contact Gina Rathbun at grathbun@health.usf.edu

NEW PATIENT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS






 

Diabetes and Endocrinology Center

PITUITARY PROGRAM




The USF-TGH Pituitary Program offers highly specialized, comprehensive care for the management and treatment of the full range of pituitary conditions. A multidisciplinary team of experts includes dedicated pituitary neurosurgeons, neuroendocrinologists, neuro-ophthalmologists, neuro-oncologists, neuropathologists, ENT specialists, and radiation oncologists. A Pituitary Tumor Board meets monthly to review cases and determine customized treatment plans.


    

Office Locations:



Endocrinology
13330 USF Laurel Dr., 5th Floor
Tampa, FL 33612
Phone for Patients: (813) 821-8011
Fax: (813) 821-8378



Neurosurgery
2 Tampa General Circle
Tampa, FL 33606
Phone for Patients: (813) 821-8034
Fax: (813) 821-8389



Contact Our Team:
Referral line for providers for all specialties:
(813) 821-8057

Continuity of Care

Initial visits for surgical patients are streamlined to allow for consultations with an endocrinologist and a neurosurgeon on the same day. In addition, patients are treated by the same team in both the inpatient and outpatient settings.

Access to Neuroendocrinology Specialists

Specialists within the Pituitary Program provide evaluation and management of pituitary and hypothalamic disorders.

- Functional vs nonfunctional pituitary adenomas
- Pre-/Post-operative pituitary hormone management
- Hypopituitarism management

Available Radiation Therapies

Patients at the USF-TGH Pituitary Program have access to the latest diagnostic tests:

Varian True Beam™ System – Fast and precise image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT) that features surface monitoring to detect motion and deliver precise treatments to target the smallest and most complex tumors.

Cyberknife® S7 Radiosurgery System – The first and only fully robotic radiotherapy device that uses stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT) to deliver precise doses of radiation with extreme accuracy in as few as 15 minutes.

Peptide Receptor Radionuclide Therapy (PRRT) – Targeted radiotherapy that involves injecting radioactive peptides, which bind with specific tumor cell receptors and destroy them with intense doses of radioactivity.

Pituitary imaging is available at multiple locations:

USF Radiology Center: (813) 259-8845 or (813) 396-2372

Tampa General Hospital: (813) 844-8288

TGH Imaging: (813) 874-3177

USF-TGH Pituitary Program Expertise

Specialists at the USF-TGH Pituitary Program are experts in treatment patients with a variety of conditions related to pituitary dysfunction including:

- Acromegaly
- Craniopharyngioma
- Cushing's disease
- Non-functioning pituitary adenoma
- Pituitary cysts, including Rathke's cleft cyst
- Prolactinoma
- TSH-producing pituitary adenomas
- Hereditary syndromes (MEN-4, MEN-1, McCune Albright syndrome, Carney complex)
- Hypophysitis
- Panhypopituitarism
- Pituitary dysfunction induced by immune checkpoint inhibitors
- Central Diabetes Insipidus

Meet The Experts

Neurosurgery



Siviero Agazzi, MD
Lead,
Pituitary Neurosurgery
Professor and Vice Chairman,
Neurosurgery



Harry Van Loveren, MD
Professor and Chairman,
Neurosurgery



Kunal Vakharia, MD
Assistant Professor,
Neurosurgery

Endocrinology



Marla Sevilla, MD
Medical Director,
Pituitary Program
Assistant Professor,
Endocrinology



Yevgeniya Kuschayeva, MD
Assistant Professor,
Endocrinology



Bayan Mesmar, MD
Assistant Professor,
Endocrinology



Silvia Salgado, MD
Assistant Professor,
Endocrinology

Neuro Oncology



Sajee A. Chowdhary, MD
Director,
Translational Research/Neuro-Oncology

Radiation Oncology



Brian Collins, MD
Director,
CNS Radiation Oncology

ENT



Arjun Parasher, MD
Assistant Professor,
ENT

Neuro-Ophthalmology



Mitchell Drucker, MD
Professor,
Neuro-Ophthalmology

Neuropathology



Pat Malafrente, MD
Neuropathology



Nicole Riddle, MD
Neuropathology

USF Health

Gina Rathbun, M.A.

Director, Physician Relations Coordination and Outreach

USF Health Communications and Marketing

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USF Health: <http://www.health.usf.edu>