Meet Your New Medical Staff Leadership

This year's election demonstrated the Medical Staff's notable engagement in our self-governance with several physicians submitting their interest as Medical Staff leadership nominees. The election results were very close, and the Nominating Committee and Staff Officers thank every physician who submitted an interest as a nominee. For those of you not elected, do not let this deter you from running in future elections. We sincerely hope you will consider serving in other committee roles, including membership on your department's core committee.

As our current Staff Officer roles near completion, we'd like to thank you for your continued support. Serving the Medical Staff has been an honor. Welcome, new leaders!

– Brian Boyd, MD, Nominating Committee Chair, and Peter Smethurst, MD, Immediate Past Chief of Staff 2022-23

2024–2025 Department and Section Officers

ANESTHESIA DEPT.
Chair: Afshin Shabanie, MD
Vice Chair: Da Wang, MD

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCIENCES DEPT.
Chair: Pravin Kansagra, MD
Vice Chair: Ashraf Ismail, MD

EENT DEPT.
Chair: Dan B. Tran, MD
(Ophthalmology Section)
Vice Chair: Faramarz Shabdiz, MD
(Otolaryngology Section)

EMERGENCY DEPT.
Chair: Daniel Gromis, MD
Vice Chair: Christopher Yao, MD

FAMILY PRACTICE DEPT.
Chair: Lawrence Ehrlich, DO
Vice Chair: Thomas Badin, MD

MEDICINE DEPT.
Chair: Amir Ghiaissi, MD
Vice Chair: Shahid Hayat, MD

• Cardiology Section
  Chair: Shalizeh Shokooh, MD

• GI Section
  Chair: Hardeep Singh, MD

• Hematology/Oncology Section
  Chair: Madhavi Mummaneni, MD

OB/GYN DEPT.
Chair: Cristina Hernandez-O’Day, MD
Vice Chair: Stephanie Lao, MD

ORTHOPEDIC DEPT.
Chair: Nikita Bezrukov, MD
Vice-Chair: Travis Scudday, MD

PATHOLOGY DEPT.
Chair: Pending*
Vice Chair: Pending*

PEDIATRICS DEPT.
Chair: Sarah O’Loughlin, MD
Vice Chair: Carole Kohen-Diniak, DO

RADIOLOGY DEPT.
Chair: Dan Vu, MD
Vice Chair: Jane E. Cambray-Forker, MD

SURGERY DEPT.
Chair: Brian Palafox, MD (Thoracic)
Vice Chair: Eric Pham, MD (General Surg)

• General Surgery Section Chair:
  Eric Pham, MD

• Neurosurgery Section Chair:
  Hector Ho, MD

• Oral Surgery Section Chair:
  Monty Wilson, DDS

• Plastic Surgery Section Chair:
  Linda Zeineh, MD

• Thoracic Surgery Section Chair:
  Brian Palafox, MD

• Urology Section Chair:
  Hari Sawkar, MD

• Vascular Surgery Section Chair:
  Russel Montgomery, MD

* Due to recent changes within Affiliated Pathologists Medical Group, they are in the process of nominating a Chair and Vice Chair for their department.
Elaine Lee, MD, Assumes Interim Chief Medical Officer Role

Dr. Elaine Lee will assume the role of interim Chief Medical Officer for Providence St. Joseph Hospital. Previously an emergency physician, Dr. Lee has been with our hospital since April 2022 in the role of Medical Director of Care Management, and she will remain in that role while assuming the interim position. Dr. Lee's contact information follows:

Email: elaine.lee@providence.org
Office: Sister Francis Dunn Building, 1st Floor

Welcome New Medical Staff

Benjamin Abney, MD
Anesthesiology
Allied Anesthesia

Frederick Chua, MD
Internal Medicine
Zand Medical Partners

Lex Herwen Barte, DPM
Podiatry
Newport Foot & Ankle

Tavleen Bhatia, MD
Gastroenterology
CHOC CS Gastroenterology

Hsu-Hsiang Chang, DO
Emergency Medicine
EMSOC

Kyle Fierro, MD
Emergency Medicine
EMSOC

Brandon Haghverdian, MD
Orthopedics
Orthopaedic Specialty Inst

Christopher Hwe, MD
Pulmonary Disease
Comprehensive Pulmonary & Primary Care

Sithu Lin, MD
Nephrology
Balboa Nephrology MG

Izabela Oluwole, MD
Neonatal-Perinatal
CHOC CS Neonatology

Neil Patel, MD
Internal Medicine
Tustin Irvine Internal Medicine MG

Goli Shenasan, MD
Psychiatry
OC Progressive Recovery

May you have abundant joy to share in 2024