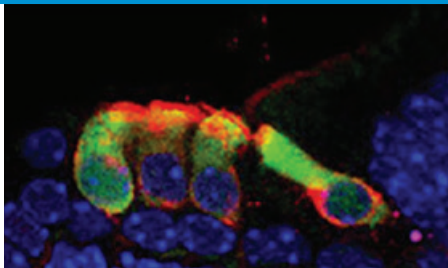


# HeadsUp!

News from the  
UCSF Department of  
Otolaryngology –  
Head and Neck Surgery



Above: Ear plugs can prevent hearing loss, but research involving the *TMTC4* gene offers hope for prevention as well. At left: RNAscope showing mRNA expression of a hair-cell marker and the novel deafness gene in hair cells of the mouse cochlea.

## Recent Discovery Could Offer a New Strategy for Preventing Hearing Loss

**D**ylan Chan, MD, PhD, associate professor in the Division of Pediatric Otolaryngology, is exploring new ways to prevent hearing loss, whether from loud noise or a chemotherapy drug called cisplatin.

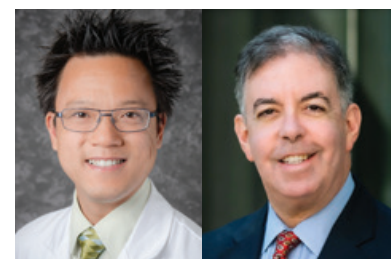
Dr. Chan's journey began eight years ago, when his colleague, Elliot Sherr, MD, PhD, a pediatric neurologist at UCSF, sought his expertise to understand why a new gene was involved in laboratory mice going deaf. Drs. Chan and Sherr discovered that absence of the *TMTC4* gene triggered a cellular process known as the unfolded protein response (UPR), which led to the destruction of the sensory hair cells in the inner ear. They also observed that exposure to loud noise induced the UPR, causing similar damage. Most importantly, they found that ISRIB, a drug developed at UCSF to block the UPR, effectively prevented noise-induced hearing loss in mice.

The research took an intriguing turn when scientists in South Korea identified siblings in their 20s who developed progressive hearing loss due to mutations in the same *TMTC4* gene. Dr. Chan's team tested cells with these same genetic mutations and discovered that they, too, exhibited an overly active UPR.

In September 2024, Dr. Chan and Sherr's teams found that the same pathway is affected in hearing loss due to cisplatin, an effective chemotherapy drug used in many cancers, including head and neck squamous cell carcinoma. Mice treated with ISRIB were also protected against cisplatin-induced hearing loss.

"We are hopeful that this approach might be effective in people, but we need to develop better drugs to target the UPR and test their effectiveness in cells, mice, and ultimately humans," Dr. Chan adds.

The promising results provide a new avenue for preventing hearing loss, offering hope for those affected by noise- and cisplatin-related hearing loss. ■



Drs. Dylan Chan (left) and Elliot Sherr

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## Demonstrating a Commitment to Community Health

As of Labor Day this year, UCSF was seeing patients at its first purpose-built ambulatory surgery center in the new Bayfront Medical Building. This \$400 million facility has 14 operating rooms (including two robot rooms) and all of the other state-of-the-art surgical equipment that one would expect from a world-class institution. Bayfront's location on our Mission Bay Campus is across the street from Chase Center, where the Golden State Warriors play. Talk about a great parking space for sporting events and concerts! On the fourth floor of the building OHNS has clinical office space to accommodate our departmental growth. There is now room for clinics in laryngology, voice and swallowing, otology/neurotology and audiology, rhinology, and facial plastic surgery.



Andrew H. Murr, MD

If you stop by the Parnassus campus, you will see that we broke ground on the new UCSF Helen Diller Hospital that is due to open in 2030. Lots of heavy equipment is present as workers drill out the foundation. This is a \$4.5 billion project, and it is really exciting to see the progress every day.

This expansion, alongside other major projects like the integration of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital and St. Mary's Medical Center into UCSF Health, underscores our commitment to advancing community health and enhancing our mission.

We welcome four new faculty who began their academic careers in the department: Mary Xu, MD, MSCE, is a head and neck oncologic and microvascular reconstructive surgeon;

Ilya Likhterov, MD, is a head and neck oncologic and microvascular reconstructive surgeon; Nikki Jiam, MD, is an otologist/neurotologist; and Kara Brodie, MD, MPH, is a pediatric otolaryngologist. We have several open searches for clinicians and scientists, including positions in auditory central processing and cancer research. Of course, we have a fresh cohort of residents and fellows whom you can read about within this newsletter.

After several years of meeting remotely because of COVID-19, residency interviews this year will be in person for UCSF. Steve Pletcher, MD, and VyVy Young, MD, continue to be engaged in national educational policy. You'll want to read the editorial that Steve and his co-authors wrote in the September issue of *Laryngoscope*.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped organize "The Auditory Cortex: An International Symposium Honoring Christoph Schreiner, MD, PhD" in May. It was a great day filled with enlightening presentations and thought-provoking conversations.

On the subject of continuing education, I hope to see you at one of the upcoming UCSF CME meetings: Our UCSF/Penn Sleep Apnea course will be on Presidents' Day weekend in Orlando, Florida, and the Pacific Rim Otolaryngology Update course with Tripler Army Hospital is scheduled for February 14–18 in Honolulu, Hawaii (see below). Please check [ohns.ucsf.edu/events](https://ohns.ucsf.edu/events) for information about the Boles Lecture, the Schindler Lecture, the Morrison Lecture, and the Sooy Lecture.

Warmly,  
Andrew H. Murr, MD, FACS  
Professor and Chair  
UCSF Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery

### Upcoming CME Meetings

#### Robert A. Schindler, MD Endowed Lectureship

Speaker: Yuri Agrawal, MD, MPH, Chair of Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery, University of Colorado  
Thursday, December 5, 2024 / Byers Auditorium, Genentech Hall, UCSF Mission Bay

#### 30th Annual Advances in Diagnosis and Treatment of Sleep Apnea and Snoring

February 14–16, 2025 / Disney's BoardWalk Inn, Orlando, Florida / [tinyurl.com/UCSF-Penn](https://tinyurl.com/UCSF-Penn)

#### Pacific Rim Otolaryngology Update

February 15–18, 2025 / Moana Surfrider Hotel, Honolulu, Hawaii / [pacoto.ucsf.edu](https://pacoto.ucsf.edu)

## Online Guide: Navigating Otolaryngology Issues While Traveling



Professor Anna Butrymowicz, MD, recently wrote a guide for travelers to prepare them for ENT issues en route.

Traveling opens new horizons and experiences, but for individuals with ear, nose, and throat (ENT) conditions, it can also pose unique challenges. From ear pain during flights to managing allergies in different climates, understanding how to navigate these issues can significantly enhance your travel experience. Dr. Butrymowicz's guide addresses common ENT issues faced by travelers and provides practical tips to ensure a smoother journey. You can find the guide at [tiny.ucsf.edu/ENTtravel](https://tiny.ucsf.edu/ENTtravel).

## Thank You for Attending the UCSF OHNS Staff Retreat

An environment of learning and connection was evident during this year's Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Staff Retreat in August.

The day featured four outstanding speakers. Chancellor Sam Hawgood, MBBS, shared insights on leadership and career growth; Department Chair Andrew Murr, MD, highlighted the department's rich history; Jasmine Powell, Equity & Justice Director of the Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health, discussed diversity and inclusion; and Sue Forstat, director of the UCSF Health Care Facilitator Program, led an engaging panel on work-life balance.

A highlight of the retreat was when Practice Supervisor Camille Rose Gagan (pictured far left) and Clinical Research Supervisor Jenny Stephans (at left) received the Exceptional Employee Award. The award is reserved for those who consistently go beyond their regular duties, demonstrating exceptional commitment to enhancing the workplace environment within the department. It highlights employees who embody the UCSF Pride Values: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Diversity, and Excellence.

"These values are the cornerstone of our department, guiding how we conduct our work, interact with colleagues, and serve our patients," Dr. Murr noted while presenting the awards.

"Both Camille and Jenny have set a high standard for excellence, and their contributions have made UCSF OHNS a better place for all," he added. ■



*We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended the retreat. Your participation made the event a memorable day and your presence and contributions were invaluable.*

*We look forward to building on the ideas and connections made during this retreat.*

## Lee D. Eisenberg, MD, MPH, Honored as a “Living Legend”

The American Academy of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery and Foundation (AAO-HNS/F) honored UCSF alum Lee D. Eisenberg, MD, MPH as a “Living Legend” during the Academy’s annual meeting in September.

Dr. Eisenberg, who was among the third class of inductees into the Academy’s Hall of Distinction, was described in the organization’s bulletin as “a highly revered colleague throughout the specialty who is recognized for his work in practice management and mentorship.”

The article further stated: “Dr. Eisenberg has made countless contributions through

his active involvement with the AAO-HNS/F beginning as a critical driver of the Board of Governors (BOG) socioeconomic advocacy effort before serving as Coordinator for Practice Affairs, Coordinator for Government Relations, Coordinator for Development, and Associate Editor for *Otolaryngology–Head*

*and Neck Surgery*. He created the Eisenberg Health Policy Resident Leadership Grant for resident education in the areas of leadership and advocacy. His philanthropy has continued as a donor to the Hal Forster, MD Endowment, Millennium Society, and ENT PAC. Most recently he has been a strong proponent of and an active participant in the AAO-HNS mENTor program, which connects medical students to otolaryngologists as an investment in the future of the specialty.

“Dr. Eisenberg is the recipient of numerous awards, including the AAO-HNS Presidential Citation (2000) and the BOG Outstanding Service Award (2005). He completed his residency at the University of California, San Francisco, and earned his master’s in public health from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health in New York, New York. He maintained an active private practice for over 38 years in Englewood, New Jersey, and served as chief of the Division of Otolaryngology, Department of Surgery at Harlem Hospital in New York. He is a founder partner of ENT & Allergy Associates and president of KJM Healthcare Consulting.” ■



## Two Senior Faculty Offer Glimpses into Atypical Activities

Whether it's biking to work or writing a book, Otolaryngology Residency Program Director Steven Pletcher, MD, and Jennifer Grandis, MD, an American Cancer Society Clinical Research Professor, are passionate about activities that exceed what's expected of many professors. They both recently wrote articles about those activities, and *Heads Up!* includes excerpts here:

### Steven Pletcher, MD

One of the things I appreciate most about my life is that no two days are ever the same. Each morning begins with my commute over the Golden Gate Bridge on my e-bike, accompanied by a cup of coffee to warm up and prepare for the day ahead. Depending on my schedule, I might leave the house a little after 5:00 a.m. to arrive at work by 6:00 a.m., while on other days, I can start closer to 8:00 a.m.



Twice a week, I work side-by-side with one of our residents at the Parnassus Campus. We manage urgent and emergent issues, often involving patients with complex head and neck diseases. These include cases from the emergency room with airway compromise, facial trauma,

or bleeding, as well as a variety of challenging surgical and medical issues from patients referred to UCSF by colleagues from other specialties. These days provide a broad set of complex medical and surgical challenges, and I find it especially rewarding to work closely with

residents during these pivotal experiences in their training.

In between my Parnassus responsibilities, I spend one day a week in my outpatient clinic, focusing on patients with sinonasal disorders – my primary clinical specialty. Here, I maintain continuity with some patients for up to 15 years, while also seeing new cases regularly.

The other two days of my week are divided between staffing surgeries at the San Francisco VA Medical Center and handling the surgical cases generated from my sinus clinic. I'm fortunate to work with residents during these activities as well.

If I'm lucky, my ride home on the e-bike includes a scenic sunset over the Pacific Ocean as I cross the bridge back home. On tougher days, the commute is more about battling the fog and wind, but either way, it's a good time to decompress after a full day's work.

### Jennifer Grandis, MD

By 2018, cumulative research studies in all medical and scientific fields indicated that women physicians and scientists were underrepresented in leadership positions, experienced more discrimination and harassment, and were paid less than their male counterparts. That led me to embark on an IRB-approved qualitative research study in late 2018 entitled, *Understanding How Gender Shapes Career Paths in Science and Medicine*.



Dr. Grandis (center) with lab staff

The reasons for this unchanging landscape for women in science and medicine were likely complex and incompletely understood. Therefore, the object of my study was to record and synthesize the experiences and perspectives of representative women and men in science and medicine at various stages of training with the goal of accurately describing the current landscape. In 2019 I traveled across the country and interviewed 52 men and 52 women faculty at 16 different institutions. To date, we have published several articles and commentaries in the peer-reviewed literature in addition to a slew of opinion pieces in the lay press. To convey the richness of the stories I heard from my interviewees, I needed to write a book!

It turns out that publishing a book designed to appeal to a wider audience, beyond academic medicine, required me to develop new skills. I joined a writing group whose members critiqued each other's drafts. To help find my non-academic "voice," I hired a professional editor. Then, I went shopping for a literary agent. While the rejections were disappointing, it turns out that I was lucky – it took me only 6 months to find two agents who were interested in signing me, and I picked the agent/agency who felt like the best fit.

Signing with an agent was a high point, followed by a two-and-a-half-year journey to find a publisher.

After fielding requests for meetings, more writing samples, and lots of hopeful exchanges with about half a dozen publishers, we recently accepted an offer from a senior acquisitions editor at Johns Hopkins University Press. Before making the offer, the editor solicited feedback on the manuscript (yes, I needed to submit a draft of the book!) from "experts" in the field – a process that took several months. I look forward to meeting with my editorial team at Hopkins so I can revise the manuscript – it will likely need to be shortened by 50%. My best guess is the book will be published in spring 2026 (*it takes a long time!*).

The process has taught me that being a good doctor and/or researcher is no guarantee that you can break into the trade publishing industry. ■

## Dr. Megan Durr Addresses Sleep Apnea on ENT Podcast

Associate Professor Megan Durr, MD, was featured in a recent episode of the BackTable ENT Podcast, a resource for otolaryngologists to learn tips, techniques, and practical advice on all things ear, nose, and throat. Dr. Durr, who specializes in surgery for sleep apnea and snoring, discussed the underdiagnosis of obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) in women, which is in part due to differences in how women present with OSA symptoms.

Unlike men, who commonly show classic OSA symptoms like snoring, gasping, and witnessed apneas, women tend to exhibit more atypical symptoms such as fatigue, fragmented sleep, and mental foggy. These vague symptoms often overlap with conditions like depression, hypothyroidism, and insomnia, leading to frequent misdiagnosis. In general, OSA screening questionnaires tend to assess for the more classic OSA symptoms and thus can miss the atypical symptoms experienced by many women.

In the podcast Dr. Durr explained that different risk factors may also contribute to this disparity. Fat distribution plays a role. Men tend to have central fat, which is more closely linked to OSA, while women usually have gynecoid fat distribution. This anatomical difference means men experience more severe OSA even when matched with women for BMI. Hormonal factors further complicate the

picture. Estrogen likely has a protective effect on the upper airway and respiratory drive, and when estrogen levels decrease with menopause, risk of developing OSA increases. The changes in fat distribution and the reduced tone of the genioglossus muscle, a key airway dilator, also contribute to higher OSA rates post-menopause. Dr. Durr also said that the risk of having OSA increases three times during pregnancy, and this can lead to complications for both the mother and newborn if left untreated.

Treatment for OSA, while largely similar for men and women, can yield different outcomes. Weight loss tends to be more effective for men due to differences in airway anatomy, while women may respond better to oral appliance therapy and upper airway stimulation. Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) therapy, the gold standard for OSA, is an efficacious option for both sexes. Overall, sex-specific differences in symptoms, risk factors, and treatment efficacy are important considerations in managing OSA in women. Finally, Dr. Durr stressed the importance of recognizing atypical OSA symptoms in women and screening women for OSA especially in pregnancy and the peri-menopausal period. ■



*Dr. Megan Durr (left) joins Dr. Gopi Shah, co-host of the BackTable ENT series and a pediatric otolaryngologist. You can view the podcast at [tinyurl.com/OSAbacktable](https://tinyurl.com/OSAbacktable).*

## Chief Residents Offer Parting Thoughts

As Drs. Tania Benjamin, Jacqueline Harris, Sifon Nadon, Neil Patel and Karolina Plonowska-Hirschfeld concluded their OHNS residencies in July, 2024, they shared thoughts about memorable mentors and research interests:

### Tania Benjamin, MD



Throughout my training, many faculty members in the School of Medicine and the Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery have played pivotal roles in my development as a physician and surgeon. My early research with Dr. Rahul Seth ignited my passion for Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery. As a resident, Dr. Seth and the Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery division have been instrumental in guiding and supporting my career aspirations in this field. Additionally, Dr. Jolie Chang has been an outstanding mentor, offering unwavering support for both my research endeavors and career development.

### Jacqueline E. Harris, MD



I've been fortunate to have several mentors at UCSF who have been instrumental in my success. Dr. Dylan Chan stands out for his unwavering dedication to research mentorship and career guidance. Dr. Anna Meyer has imparted medical knowledge and the art of compassionate and holistic patient care. Drs. Patricia Loftus and Jeffrey Sharon have guided me through not only challenging cases but have also encouraged me to think critically and innovate in my approach to research.

### Sifon Nadon, MD



I hope to be able to delve deeper into public health issues that affect the care we deliver to head and neck cancer patients. I have taken away valuable lessons from many attendings, but Drs. Patrick Ha, Ivan El-Sayed and Jolie Chang have been instrumental in guiding residency.

### Neil Patel, MD



Thank you to the mentors along the way, including Drs. Andrew Goldberg, Steven Pletcher, Patricia Loftus and José Gurrola II while I explored the possibility of pursuing Rhinology. As I settled the decision of Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Drs. Daniel Knott, Rahul Seth and Andrea Park helped me explore the full breadth of the field. They guided me toward the fellowship that will afford me the training in exactly the type of care I hope to provide for my patients!

### Karolina Plonowska-Hirschfeld, MD



One of the facets of UCSF OHNS that makes it such a special place to train is the faculty mentorship, particularly in research. Drs. Steve Cheung and Jolie Chang's brilliant ideas have been instrumental in bringing our projects on skeletal muscle response to microacoustic energy pulses to fruition. In clinical research, I've worked closely with Drs. William Ryan, Daniel Knott, and Patrick Ha – each of them have shared their invaluable expertise in study design and building meaningful and productive relationships with collaborators. ■

## Welcome to the Department

### Four New Faculty Join OHNS

#### Kara Brodie, MD



Kara Brodie, MD, a distinguished alumna of UCSF OHNS, joined the pediatric OHNS faculty in September 2024. With her clinical interest in pediatric hearing loss, she will be instrumental in driving research in hearing screening in children and rehabilitation in the deaf and hard of hearing pediatric population.

Dr. Brodie's primary clinical site will be at UCSF Benioff Oakland, but her contributions will extend across the entire UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals system.

Dr. Brodie comes to UCSF OHNS from Seattle Children's Hospital, an affiliate of the University of Washington. She earned a Master of Philosophy in Public Health from the University of Cambridge. She then attended UC Davis for medical school and UCSF for her OHNS residency, where she served as Chief Resident.

Her academic prowess was recognized with the prestigious Regents' and Chancellor's Scholarship at UC Berkeley. She was also honored as a UC Berkeley Alumni Association Leadership Award Scholar, a testament to her innovative leadership. Her outstanding performance in medical school led to her election to Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) and the receipt of an AOA Medical Student Service Leadership Award. She is also a proud member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

#### Ilya Likhterov, MD



In July, 2024 Ilya Likhterov, MD, was named an Associate Professor in Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery and Head and Neck Endocrine Surgery at the Helen Diller Family NCI Designated Comprehensive Cancer (HDFCCC) at UCSF. Dr. Likhterov will be the scheduled cancer center team

member at our Parnassus campus, making clinical contributions at Mission Bay and our cancer center practice at the Berkeley Outpatient Center.

Dr. Likhterov will work closely with the UCSF Transfer Center and the Parnassus Hospitalist Team to provide care for patients who require transfer to UCSF for tertiary services in the oncologic and reconstructive realm. Additionally, he will provide more convenient access to patients seeking care in the HDFCCC at its East Bay practice location.

Dr. Likhterov's medical degree is from Weill Cornell Medical College in New York, New York. He completed his residency at UCSF in 2014, culminating in his being Chief Resident. After residency, he completed a head and neck oncologic and reconstructive surgery fellowship at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital in New York. Dr. Likhterov remained on faculty at Sinai after fellowship and contributed to the New York Eye and Ear residency program, where he won the annual resident teaching award in 2016. In 2019, he became the

oncologic and reconstructive surgery partner for a large single specialty group in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Dr. Likhterov has authored approximately 30 publications and has written six book chapters.

#### Nicole Jiam, MD



A graduate of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and a former OHNS Chief Resident in 2022, Nicole Jiam, MD, is now on the OHNS faculty in the Division of Otolaryngology and is the Director of the UCSF Otolaryngology Innovation Center.

Her leadership skills, innovation, and research contributions include founding and serving as Executive Director of a camp for children affected by a parent's cancer. Dr. Jiam is also a co-inventor of a provisionally patented nasal implant and was awarded a UCSF Catalyst Award. She is the CEO and co-founder of IIAM Health, a health tech start-up facilitating accurate and efficient new patient referral processing for tertiary health care centers.

Dr. Jiam has secured approximately \$1.02 million in research support and has received several NIH, NSF, and foundation awards. Her research has resulted in over 41 peer-reviewed publications, with about 25 of them featuring her as the first author.

Dr. Jiam's interest in otology and neurotology has led her to partner with Charles Limb, MD, OHNS Chief of Otolaryngology/Neurotology, on music perception research in cochlear implantation. She has also worked with our faculty in rhinology, laryngology, skull base surgery, and neurosurgery to produce clinical contributions to the medical literature.

#### Mary Jue Xu, MD



UCSF OHNS welcomed Mary Jue Xu, MD, to our faculty in July 2024. A head and neck oncologic surgeon and head and neck endocrine surgeon with special training and expertise in microvascular free flap reconstruction, Dr. Xu will focus her clinical efforts at both Zuckerberg San Francisco

General Hospital and the Helen Diller Family NCI Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center at UCSF.

Dr. Xu trained at UCSF OHNS and was a National Clinical Scholars Program fellow in Biostatistics and Epidemiology at UCSF. Her research interest is in global surgery, and she is an active member of the Center for Health Equity in Surgery and Anesthesia (CHESA). She recently completed a Master of Advanced Studies in Clinical Research at UCSF.

Dr. Xu has been a contributing author to about 30 peer-reviewed publications and is the first author of two book chapters. She is a co-founder, co-principal investigator, and an Executive Committee member of the Global Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Initiative. She is a project mentor for Tanzanian research students on otolaryngology-related projects through the UCSF Global Cancer Program and is the co-investigator on a grant from the Coalition for Implementation Research in Global Oncology in Tanzania. ■

## New Residents and Fellows

### RESIDENCY CLASS OF 2029

#### Emily Honzel, MD



Dr. Honzel has the unique combination of an MD degree from Columbia University and a master's in opera performance from the University of Maryland. Her research interests naturally lie in laryngeal innervation, vocal health, head and neck microbiology and surgical outcomes, which is evident in her prolific research publications and presentations. She was the senior advisor and board member at a free clinic that provides pro bono medical and psychiatric evaluations for asylum seekers.

#### Isaac Solomon, MD



Dr. Solomon completed his medical education from UC San Diego with high honors, and he also has a Master's in Public Health from Harvard. He is a regular contributor to the Otolaryngology newsletter *The Auricle*. Dr. Solomon's research interests include patient safety and quality improvement, alternative payment models, surgical outcomes, and medical education.

#### Ashley Stone, MD



While earning her MD degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Dr. Stone was an Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society member and a recipient of the Senior Research Fellowship award. Her research interests include social determinants of health and quality improvement. Dr. Stone designed and led trainings of volunteers for data collection to improve the quality of care provided at the student-run free clinic in The Bronx, NY.

#### Woodi Woodland, MD



Dr. Woodland received multiple merit scholarships in recognition of her exceptional academic performance and volunteerism while earning her MD degree from the University of Tennessee (UT). She was president of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society and student representative on the UT Board of Trustees. Her research interests lie in DEI within medicine, health disparities, antibiotic stewardship, and medical devices.

#### Agnes Zhu, MD



On her way toward receiving an MD degree from the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine, Dr. Zhu co-founded a student-run free primary care clinic for unhoused people. She also co-founded the Asian Pacific American Medical School Association at the Mayo Clinic. Her research interests include head and neck cancer, facial aesthetic surgery, and artificial intelligence in medicine.

### INCOMING FELLOWS

#### Aarti Agarwal, MD

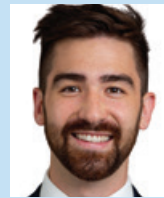
*Facial Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery Fellow*



Dr. Agarwal obtained her MD degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo and completed her residency at the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. A member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society, she has participated in various humanitarian global outreach programs in Africa and was instrumental in establishing a collaborative surgical team to serve the patients of Lusaka by conducting a systematic needs assessment. Dr. Agarwal has contributed to over 15 publications, published a book chapter, and presented at numerous national conferences.

#### Michael Chow, MD

*Head and Neck Oncology Fellow*



Dr. Chow completed a residency at New York University after receiving an MD degree from the University of Southern California, where he was inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society. He was first author on multiple papers and has presented his research at numerous national conferences. Dr. Chow helped expand free tissue reconstructive efforts in head and neck oncology in Vietnam, and he coordinated the first vocal health screening events from the USC Voice Center at the Festival of Books and for the Screen Actors Guild in Los Angeles.

#### Faisal Alosamey, MBBS

*Pediatric Otolaryngology Fellow*



Dr. Alosamey completed his medical and surgical undergraduate and residency training in Saudi Arabia, followed by postgraduate training in pediatric otolaryngology at McGill University. After completing his fellowship, his goal is to expand access to high quality pediatric otolaryngology care in Saudi Arabia.

#### Alexandra D'Oto, MD

*Laryngology Fellow*



After earning an MD degree from the University of Tennessee, Dr. D'Oto completed her residency at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. She is an Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society member and was elected into the Gold Humanism Honor Society. She is actively involved in design and maintenance, content acquisition and development, and upload for the non-profit website Stroboscopy Video Atlas ([stroboscopy.org](http://stroboscopy.org)). ■



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## UCSF OHNS Extends Reach

### New Bayfront Medical Building Now Open to OHNS Patients

The Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery began serving patients at its newest location in August. In addition to OHNS, UCSF’s Bayfront Medical Building on the Mission Bay campus provides adult outpatient services in primary, specialty, and urgent care.



The Bayfront building has 14 operating rooms, a radiological imaging suite, a physical/occupational therapy gym, a laboratory, and a pharmacy to serve patients in 15 medical specialties.

UCSF OHNS physicians who currently provide care at the Bayfront site include Andrea Park, MD; Charles Limb, MD; Clark Rosen, MD; Yue Ma, MD; Jose Gurrola II, MD; and Nicole Jiam, MD.

The Bayfront Medical Building is located at 520 Illinois Street in San Francisco. The phone number for appointments is (415) 353-7598. ■

### UCSF Begins Integrating Saint Francis and St. Mary’s Hospitals

Effective August 1, 1,800 new team members from Saint Francis Memorial Hospital and St. Mary’s Medical Center joined UCSF Health as part of a complete integration that will take about two years. UCSF will focus on maintaining stability while investing in technology and facility improvements at the two venerable San Francisco medical centers, which are now named UCSF Health Saint Francis and UCSF Health St. Mary’s. ■



### HeadsUp!

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Voice and Swallowing Center **415/885-7700**

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UCSF Health Redwood Shores Specialty Care  
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