

Physician to Physician

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New to UC Irvine Healthcare



Lama Al-Khoury, MD • Neurology

Dr. Lama Al-Khoury is a board-certified neurologist with special expertise in stroke. She evaluates and treats patients with stroke and transient ischemic attacks at UC Irvine Medical Center's Stroke and Cerebrovascular Center, which is certified by The Joint Commission and designated by Orange County as a comprehensive stroke receiving center. Al-Khoury is trained in acute stroke therapy, especially in giving thrombolytic treatment in eligible patients. She also

provides follow-up treatment and stroke prevention care in an outpatient setting. Al-Khoury earned her medical degree at American University of Beirut, where she also completed a residency in internal medicine. She then completed a residency in neurology at University of Arkansas Medical Sciences Medical Center. She did a stroke fellowship at UC San Diego, which included an extra year of training in cerebrovascular imaging. Al-Khoury is board certified in neurology and has research interests in clinical trials in stroke.



Samer S. Ghostine, MD • Neurosurgery

Dr. Samer (Sam) Ghostine is the director of the Department of Neurosurgery spine service and the neurosurgical co-director of the UC Irvine Healthcare Comprehensive Spine Program. He specializes in the treatment of complex spine disorders using both open and minimally invasive surgical techniques. Ghostine's research interests include finding an application for stem cell technology to treat neurological and spinal disorders. As a collaborator with UC Irvine's Reeve-Irvine

Research Center, he will be participating in a Phase 1 stem cell safety trial later this year. He has had multiple publications in peer-reviewed journals, including Journal of Neurosurgery, Surgical Neurology, and Spine. Ghostine received his medical degree at Georgetown University School of Medicine. He completed his neurosurgery residency at Loma Linda University Medical Center and a complex spine and stem cell fellowship at Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles. He is a member of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons and the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.



Daniel Jaffurs, MD, PhD • Plastic surgery

Dr. Daniel Jaffurs specializes in pediatric plastic surgery and craniofacial surgery at UC Irvine's Aesthetic and Plastic Surgery Institute. He is keenly interested in the treatment of cleft lip and palate, and the genetic causes of craniofacial abnormalities. He has a special interest in utilizing the technique of distraction osteogenesis for the treatment of various congenital defects. He also is expert in repair and

reconstruction of adult facial trauma. Jaffurs received both his medical degree and a Ph.D. in molecular genetics from University of Pittsburgh. He completed a residency in general surgery at Guthrie Clinic (Robert Packer Hospital) in Sayre, Penn. He then completed a plastic surgery fellowship at University of Oklahoma, followed by a fellowship in craniofacial and pediatric plastic surgery at Medical College of Wisconsin and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.



George V. Lawry, MD • Rheumatology

Dr. George V. (Geordie) Lawry is chief of the Division of Rheumatology and specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of arthritis and autoimmune diseases. Board certified in both internal medicine and rheumatology, Lawry has clinical expertise in rheumatoid arthritis, gout, crystalline arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, psoriatic arthritis, systemic lupus, systemic vasculitis, bursitis and tendinitis. He is particularly skilled in joint and soft-tissue aspiration and injections.

Lawry earned his medical degree at Johns Hopkins, completed his residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Stanford University, and did his fellowship in rheumatology at UCLA. He practiced in Menlo Park for 12 years and was on the faculty at Stanford. For the last 16 years he was on the faculty of the University of Iowa, where he developed a three-part curriculum for teaching musculoskeletal physical exam skills to students, residents and practicing physicians.



Vinita Jain Speir, MD • Obstetrics and gynecology

Dr. Vinita Jain Speir practices general obstetrics and gynecology. In addition to routine gynecologic conditions such as contraceptive management and treatment of abnormal bleeding, her clinical interests include pre-conception counseling, vulvar disorders, pelvic pain and sexual health after treatment of chronic disease. She performs both laparoscopic and hysteroscopic procedures, including

in-office procedures such as Essure and uterine ablation. Speir received her medical degree from University of California, Irvine and completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at UC Irvine Medical Center. Her current research interests include sexual function after surgery and appropriate weight gain in pregnancy. She sees patients at UC Irvine Women's Healthcare Center offices in Orange and Newport Beach.



O. Jameson Stokes, MD, MS • Pain management

Dr. O. Jameson Stokes is a board-certified anesthesiologist who specializes in the multidisciplinary care of chronic pain patients by focusing on the interventional, pharmacological, physical, and psychological aspects of pain management. He provides state-of-the-art treatments for chronic pain, including the use of implantable dorsal column stimulators, implantable drug delivery systems, radiofrequency ablation and kyphoplasty. His clinical and research interests include

neuropathic pain states including post-thoracotomy pain syndrome. Stokes received his medical degree from Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta and served as chief resident at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, where he completed his anesthesiology residency. He also completed a pain medicine fellowship at Stanford University. Stokes has several professional memberships including the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians, International Spine Intervention Society, American Society of Regional Anesthesia, and the American Society of Anesthesiologists.



Steven Tam, MD • Geriatrics

Dr. Steven Tam is a board-certified geriatrician practicing at the SeniorHealth Center at UC Irvine Medical Center in Orange. He also sees patients in several skilled nursing facilities. Tam specializes in geriatric assessments and dementia care. He is part of the Health Assessment Program for Seniors (HAPS) team that provides comprehensive, multidisciplinary evaluations that address senior patients'

medical, cognitive, pharmaceutical, social and caregiving issues. Tam also provides primary medical care for adults over age 50. Tam earned his medical degree at UC San Diego and completed his internal medicine residency at Scripps Clinic and Scripps Green Hospital in La Jolla. He completed a fellowship in geriatric medicine at UCSD and a second fellowship in dementia at the VA San Diego Healthcare System. His research interests are in dementia and skilled nursing facility care.



UCIRVINE

UC Irvine Medical Center CEO and Medical School Dean Named



Terry Belmont

New leadership is now at the helm of Orange County's only university medical center and school of medicine. Veteran healthcare administrator Terry Belmont has been appointed chief executive officer of UC Irvine Medical Center, and Dr. Ralph V. Clayman, renowned urologist and pioneer of minimally invasive surgical techniques, has been named dean of the School of Medicine.

Belmont, who has been serving as interim CEO since March 2009, already has strengthened the medical center's partnership with the School of Medicine and accelerated growth planning to maximize the increased capacity of the medical center since the opening of UC Irvine Douglas Hospital last year.

Prior to coming to UC Irvine, Belmont served as CEO of Long Beach Memorial Medical Center and Miller Children's Hospital.



Dr. Ralph V. Clayman

Clayman, who had been serving as the School of Medicine's interim dean since March 2009, is an internationally

acclaimed researcher and inventor whose leadership has made UC Irvine Medical Center a major center for minimally invasive robotic and laparoscopic surgery. He came to UC Irvine in 2002 to found the Department of Urology. Prior to that he was professor of surgery (urology) and radiology and medical director of the Midwest Stone Institute at Washington University in St. Louis.

Under Clayman's leadership, UC Irvine became home to the first mini-residency program for teaching urological surgeons the latest techniques in minimally invasive surgery. The Department of Urology was ranked among the top 20 nationally in the most recent U.S. News & World Report's annual "Best Hospitals" issue.

Readers' Survey

Thank you to everyone who participated in the *Physician to Physician* readers' survey. We are using the information to improve the quality of the newsletter.

Congratulations to Dr. Lawrence D. Freedman, a family medicine physician from Newport Beach, who won the drawing among survey respondents. He receives a \$100 gift certificate to the restaurant of his choice.

Bookmark These Sites

There is a wealth of information for community physicians interested in continuing medical education conferences and grand rounds for professional growth, as well as in clinical trials and educational events for patients:

■ CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION www.meded.uci.edu/cme

Listings of conferences, seminars and regularly scheduled grand rounds for CME credit, in addition to other professional educational opportunities.

■ CLINICAL TRIALS www.ucihealth.com/clinicaltrials

Information about current clinical trials, listed by conditions and disease sites or searchable by keyword.

■ PATIENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT www.ucihealth.com

Listings of community events, health education classes and support groups.

News in Brief

Patient cases were transmitted live from the H.H. Chao Comprehensive Disease Center at UC Irvine Medical Center to more than 400 national and international gastroenterologists at the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) Governors/American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) 2010 Best Practices Course 2 on Jan. 29. This was the first time the Best Practices Course allowed live feed transmission of cases. Drs. Kenneth Chang, John Lee and V. Raman Muthusamy lectured during the course and used new endoscopic technology with high-definition (HD) scopes and a new technology platform that enables real-time dynamic observation of tissues at the microscopic level. The CDDC was one of the first GI facilities to incorporate this HD technology.

For more news about UC Irvine Healthcare visit www.ucihealth.com/news.

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