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MEDICAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVALS

Items approved at the last Medical Executive Committee meeting can be viewed by using this website link and selecting the particular month:

<https://www.torrancememorial.org/for-providers/medical-executive-committee/>

If you have any questions, please contact the Medical Staff Services Department at (310) 517-4616.



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about breast cancer, promoting early detection, and supporting those affected by the disease.

“1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. That’s one person every 2 minutes in the U.S.” - Komen.org

Importance of Early Detection: Early detection of breast cancer significantly increases the chances of successful treatment. Regular mammograms, self-examinations, and awareness of family history are crucial steps in catching the disease early. Many organizations offer free or low-cost screening services during this month to ensure that everyone has access to these life-saving tests.

Screening and Guidelines: Screening guidelines can vary, but here are some general recommendations:

Mammograms: Women aged 40-44 should have the option to start annual mammograms. Women aged 45-54 should get mammograms every year. Women 55 and older can switch to mammograms every two years or continue yearly screening.

Clinical Breast Exams: These are part of the recommended yearly health exam for women 20 years of age and older.

Self-Exams: While not a substitute for professional screenings, self-exams can help individuals notice changes in their breasts and seek medical advice.

Support and Resources: Breast Cancer Awareness Month also highlights the importance of support for patients and survivors. Numerous resources are available, including support groups, counseling services, and financial assistance programs. These resources help individuals navigate their journey with breast cancer, providing emotional and practical support.

By coming together this October, we can make a difference in the fight against breast cancer, supporting those affected and working towards a future without this disease. Early detection and regular screenings are key to saving lives, so let’s spread the word and encourage everyone to stay vigilant about their breast health.



Exciting Updates on the Emergency Department Expansion

First Floor Triage Construction: On September 24 we officially broke ground on this exciting project and prepared the site for construction, which will include creating a materials staging area for construction crews. This area will be located east of the ED entrance (near the recently installed MRI Trailer). Starting on November 7, we will begin work at the front entrance of the Emergency Department to build a new temporary triage area. This temporary triage space will allow us to continue providing seamless patient care while we replace our existing triage area with a modern, more efficient space designed to improve patient flow and comfort.

Impact on Operations: We expect minimal disruption during this phase, and all efforts will be made to ensure that patient care remains uninterrupted. The temporary triage will be fully operational while construction of the permanent triage area is underway.

Expected Completion: Temporary triage will be completed around April 2025; permanent triage area will be completed around January 2026.

Second Floor Demo: Also, on November 7, the demo will start on the second floor of the Emergency Department. This phase involves important preparation work, including "safe-ing off" the electrical conduit and nurse call systems before the more intensive demolition work begins.

Impact on Operations: The early demo process will be non-disruptive to daily operations, and all safety protocols are in place to ensure a smooth transition. This initial work is expected to take about a month, leading into the hard demolition phase in December. What's Next? We will continue to provide you with updates as the project progresses. We appreciate your cooperation and flexibility as we move through these important steps toward improving our Emergency Department.

Key Dates to Remember:

September 24: Official groundbreaking ceremony

November 7: New temporary triage construction begins at the front entrance of the Emergency Department. Second-floor demo begins with preparation work (non-disruptive).

December: Hard demolition phase for the second floor begins.



Dear Torrance Memorial Medical Staff,

We want to bring to your attention an important reminder about safeguarding your personal information and to be wary of scams, including recent ones using our executives' names.

Regarding safeguarding your personal information, recently a staff member was inappropriately contacted by a former patient. The patient had initially asked for the staff member's last name, which was shared out of courtesy. Unfortunately, the individual later used this information to obtain her phone number and contact her privately after discharge. Please remember that almost everyone's personal information can be found by just Googling a name including phone numbers, addresses, date of birth, etc.

To prevent situations like this, please be mindful of protecting your personal details. Refrain from sharing your full name, contact information, or any other identifying details with patients. If a patient requests your last name for a commendation or "kudos," please offer only your first name and the initial of your last name (e.g., Jane D.) While providing an exceptional patient experience is a priority, your safety and privacy are paramount. Please remain vigilant and prioritize your well-being when interacting with patients.

We also want to make you aware of scams that are using our executives' names to try and get "donations" or buy gift cards. As an example, someone or some group used Torrance Memorial CEO Keith Hobbs' name from a burner phone and texted staff pretending to be Keith and asking them to buy him "gift cards." Other groups have used executives' names trying to get donations for hospital equipment. This is a scam and please be wary of any text messages asking for donations or money. **No executive at Torrance Memorial Health will ever contact staff requesting any donations, gift cards or money of any kind.**

Please also be wary of anyone who is asking for money urgently. Often these scammers have given you a fake check or even a fake cashier's check and then they will ask you to Zelle or Venmo them **urgently**. This should raise a red flag for you and do not comply. If you Zelle or Venmo money to people because you were scammed, you will likely not get reimbursed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your ongoing dedication to our team and patients.

TMMC COVID-19 Vaccination and Masking

**Proof of COVID Vaccine or Declination
must be submitted to Medical Staff Services
by NOVEMBER 1, 2024**

As we enter the respiratory virus season, we want to remind all Medical Staff of our updated COVID-19 vaccination and masking policy to ensure the safety and well-being of both our staff and patients.

DECLINATION: The TMMC COVID Vaccine Declination form must be submitted to Medical Staff Services no later than NOVEMBER 1, 2024 if:

- Opting out of receiving the updated COVID-19 Vaccine, OR
- Receiving the vaccine after the November 1, 2024 deadline

MASKING: All Medical Staff, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a mask during direct patient care. Medical Staff who choose to decline the COVID-19 vaccine will be required to wear a mask for the duration of the respiratory virus season (November 1, 2024—April 30, 2025).

TMMC Hosted COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics for Health Care Personnel

In a change from last year, these clinics will be completely WALK-IN ONLY. You can simply walk into Employee Health, check in, and then receive your vaccination. There is also no more waiting afterwards. Another change for this year will be that stickers will not be distributed for those who receive their shot.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3rd

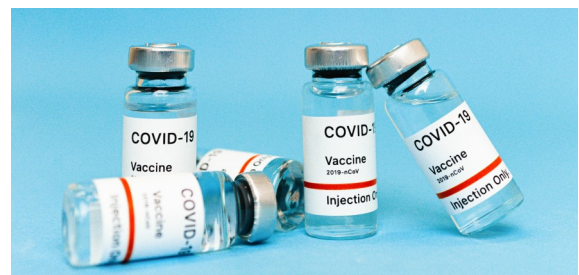
3:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Hoffman Health Conference Center (HCC)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4th

6:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Hoffman Health Conference Center (HCC)



Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Medical Staff Services Department at (310) 517-4616.

FLU SHOTS ARE HERE!

*Mandatory for all active employees, physicians, and volunteers.

**Proof of Influenza Vaccine must be submitted to
Medical Staff Services by NOVEMBER 15, 2024**

If you plan to submit an exemption request for review, the deadline is **10/18/24**. No late forms will be accepted. Please contact Medical Staff Services for religious accommodation and medical exemption request forms.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Medical Staff Services Department at (310) 517-4616.



FLU SHOT CLINIC DATES		
Tues. 10/08/24 1300-1600 Jarod's Café	Tues. 11/05/24 0800-1130 WT Auditorium	EVENING Clinics
Thurs. 10/10/24 0800-1130 WT Auditorium	Thurs. 11/07/24 0800-1130 Jarod's Café	Tues. 10/01/24 1600-2100 Yang's Café
Tues. 10/22/24 1300-1600 Yang's Café	Thurs. 11/13/24 0800-1130 Yang's Café	Tues. 10/29/24 1600-2100 Yang's Café
Thurs. 10/24/24 0800-1130 Jarod's Café		WEEKEND Clinics
		Sat. 10/12/24 0900-1300 Yang's Café

**Register Now!**

Advances in the Care of Substance Use Disorders

For Physicians and Healthcare Professionals Only

TORRANCE MEMORIAL Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Symposium

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2024

Breakfast/Registration: 8:30 to 9am

Conference: 9am to 1:30pm

Lunch: 12:30 to 1:30pm

**Torrance Memorial
Hoffman Health Conference Center**

3315 Medical Center Drive, Torrance, CA 90505

The MAT Symposium will be a half-day professional conference focused on promoting comprehensive understanding of Substance Use Disorder and Medication Assisted Treatment.

FEES: Complimentary

Include lectures, continental breakfast, lunch and syllabus.

TO REGISTER SCAN QR CODE

or visit

TorranceMemorial.org/MATsymposium
or email carol.dunne@tmmc.com.

Registration is required to attend this event.



STATEMENT OF NEED:

Substance use disorders and the opioid crisis are two of the most pressing public health challenges we face today. Beyond addiction and overdose deaths, substance use has profound health, mental health, economic, and societal impacts. Fortunately, evidence-based treatments are available to support individuals with substance use disorders, yet these options remain underutilized. This symposium aims to explore and clarify the treatment options for substance use disorders, including medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder. Key topics will cover risk factors, prevention strategies, clinical presentations, treatment approaches, and outcomes.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Physicians, physician assistants and nurses in internal and family medicine, emergency and urgent care providers, OBGYN and other surgical specialties, pediatrics, pain management, and other health care professionals.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

After upon completion of this program participants should be able to:

- Realize the current crisis and cost of substance use disorder on their patients and society
- Understand the main types of substance use disorders and the available treatments
- Recognize the benefits of buprenorphine and its use in opioid use disorder
- Implement treatments and harm reduction techniques to improve and save lives
- CME credits satisfy mandatory DEA requirement for prescribing controlled substances safely

SPONSORED
BY:



Torrance Memorial Medical Center is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education/ California Medical Association (ACCME/CMA) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Torrance Memorial Medical Center designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.5 AMA PRA Category I Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The California Board of Registered Nursing accepts Category 1 CME to meet RN continuing education requirements.



CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

9:00 – 9:30am

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Gretchen Lent, MD

Director of Emergency Medicine, Torrance Memorial Medical Center

9:30 – 10:00am

Moe Gelbart, PhD

Director, Behavioral Health, Torrance Memorial Medical Center

Executive Director, Thelma McMillen Recovery Center

“Basic Principles of Addiction”

10:00 – 10:30am

Matin Hemmat, MD

Addiction Specialist

Founder Peninsula Health Center

“Suboxone Induction, Maintenance and Macro Dosing & How to Avoid Precipitated Withdrawals”

10:30 – 11:00am

Jennifer Zhan, MD

Board Certified Emergency Medicine Physician

Implementation Leader, Public Health Institute CA Bridge and EDSP Programs

“Let’s Talk About: Polysubstance Abuse”

11:00 – 11:30am

Kazi Rezai, MD

Founder Coastal Primary Care

“Safer Pain Management”

11:30am – 12:00pm

Maureen McCollough MD, MPH, FACEP, FASAM

Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine

David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Director, Pediatric Emergency Medicine

Co-Director, Olive View-UCLA Bridge Program

Department of Emergency Medicine

Olive View-UCLA School of Medicine

“Treating Special Populations, Peds, OB, and Incarcerated Patients”

12:00 – 12:30pm

Kartik Ananth, MD

Pain Medicine Specialist & Founder Pacific Pain & Wellness Group

“Success of Buprenorphine in Pain Management Settings”

12:30 – 1:30pm

LUNCH

1:00 – 1:30pm

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION: Gretchen Lent, MD



To celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month Torrance Memorial Medical Center is hosting a community health and wellness fair with the goal of improving health outcomes for the Hispanic community.

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Torrance Memorial Hoffman Health Conference Center

Join us for a special evening to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month while gaining insights into understanding health risks and improving overall health for you and your family. This is a bilingual event, offering Spanish and English presentations.

Highlights of the evening

- Expert insights: Receive valuable information from healthcare professionals about understanding health risks and practical tips for boosting overall health.
- Health screenings: Benefit from complimentary health screenings to assess and monitor your well-being.
- Informational exhibits: Explore our health exhibits, which offer actionable advice and resources for a healthier lifestyle.
- Giveaways and raffle prizes: Enjoy exciting giveaways and have the chance to win fantastic raffle prizes.
- Light refreshments will be available.



Scan to Register

Contact

Community Health Education at
310-517-4711 or [send an email](#)



The 2024 Orthopaedic Trauma Symposium will present a review of new techniques to address common fractures encountered in practice. Didactic sessions focused on new and emerging concepts will be presented by expert faculty. Additionally, skills labs to make the concepts discussed more granular will be offered.

Saturday, October 5, 2024

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Sofitel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills

8555 Beverly Blvd, Los Angeles, CA

Target Audience:

Specialties - Emergency Medicine, Geriatrics, Orthopaedic Surgery, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

Professions - Nurse, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, Physician, Physician Assistant

Credits: AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™] (MD, DO) (7.00 hours), Non-Physician Attendance (RN, APRN, PA, PharmD and Others) (7.00 hours), AAPA Category 1 CME credit (7.00 hours), ABOS MOC (7.00 hours)

Registration:

Physicians: \$200

Non-physicians: \$125

Resident/Fellows/Medical Students: \$75

Cedars-Sinai Resident/Fellow: Free

[2024 Orthopaedic Trauma: Fracture Problems in the Real World - New Solutions to Old Problems - Cedars-Sinai - Continuing Education \(CE\) - 2024 Orthopaedic Trauma: Fracture Problems in the Real World - New Solutions to Old Problems \(cloud-cme.com\)](https://www.cloud-cme.com/2024-orthopaedic-trauma-fracture-problems-real-world)



Take control of your future healthcare decisions by joining our Advance Care Directive Planning Workshop. This free, informative session is designed to guide you through the process of creating a comprehensive and legally sound healthcare directive, ensuring your medical care preferences are clearly documented and respected.

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Zoom Link: <https://tmmc.zoom.us/j/88598261940%EF%BB%BF>

Topics covered include :

- What an Advance Healthcare Directive is
- Why an Advance Healthcare Directive is important
- How to complete an Advance Healthcare Directive

Why Attend?

- **Peace of Mind:** Ensure that your healthcare wishes are respected and your loved ones are not left making difficult decisions without guidance.
- **Proactive Planning:** Be proactive in planning for future healthcare scenarios, reducing uncertainty and stress for you and your family.
- **Expert Guidance:** Benefit from the expertise of professionals in legal and healthcare fields who can provide clarity and support throughout the process.

Who Should Attend?

- Individuals interested in proactive healthcare planning.
- Adults of any age who want to document their healthcare preferences.
- Caregivers and family members who wish to understand healthcare directives better.
- Anyone looking to ensure their healthcare decisions are honored.

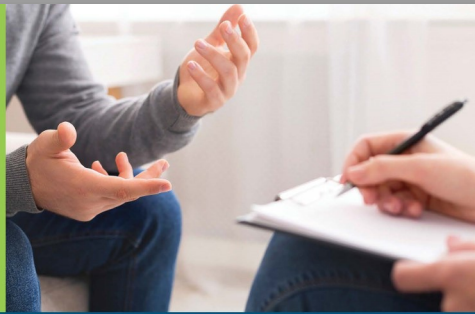
For questions, please call 310-784-4880.

MSAP and SOS Programs

MEDICAL STAFF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



PHYSICIAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (PAP)



Physicians who are experiencing personal struggles and/or problems are eligible to receive up to ten free counseling visits per calendar year (Physician Assistance Program.)

PAP has been directed and coordinated by Dr. Moe Gelbart and provided by a team of therapists located at Torrance Memorial McMillen Medical Building and other locations throughout the South Bay, as well as telehealth visits.

- PAP provides short term counseling, assessment, and referral for:
 - personal, family, and work issues
 - chemical dependency
 - financial and legal issues
- All information is held in strictest confidence

NO REFERRAL NECESSARY

Call Dr. Moe Gelbart at x44935 (310-784-4935) or x75751 (310-257-5751) for an appointment

Please identify yourself as a Torrance Memorial employee or family member.



PHYSICIAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

McMillen Medical Building
3333 Skypark Drive, Suite 200, Torrance, CA 90505
Extension 44935 (310-784-4935) or x75751 (310-257-5751)

Eligible Medical Staff members may self-refer to the Program by calling **GELBART AND ASSOCIATES**

at (310) 257-5751

Inquiries will be held in strictest confidence.

Self-referrals are limited to up to ten (10) visits to program counselors. The program counselor may immediately refer clients to a qualified professional in the community for continued care after an initial assessment, if the counselor determines that more than ten (10) visits are necessary.

Torrance Memorial Medical Staff provides members of the Medical Staff with professional and confidential assistance through a Medical Staff Assistance Program (MSAP) at no cost to members for ten (10) crisis and intervention visits per calendar year. This service proves members with a constructive way to deal with personal problems which may be affecting behavior and clinical performance. It is the belief that dealing with these problems preemptively may alleviate issues related to clinical performance, clinical privileges and/or membership. However, member involvement in this or any other rehabilitation program does not excuse or limit the obligation of members to meet Torrance Memorial Medical Staff's Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and policies/procedures or standards.

SUPPORT OUR STAFF



Support Our Staff

- Need to talk through a difficult situation you have encountered? A case that is bothering you? Or perhaps a personal issue that has been difficult to process? **Help is only a call away!**
- The **S.O.S.** team is comprised of volunteers trained in critical incident stress management who will provide you with a “safe zone” to express thoughts and reactions to enhance coping.

Common reactions to a stressful life event include:

Physical Symptoms	Psychological Symptoms
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sleep disturbance• Difficulty concentrating• Fatigue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fear• Grief• Depression• Self-doubt• Extreme sadness

- You’ve cared for our patients and community, now let us care for you! S.O.S. is confidential, FREE, and available 24/7.

Simply call 310-997-7444 or x79100 and leave a message (you will be called back within 24 hours)



Alternatively, you may contact:

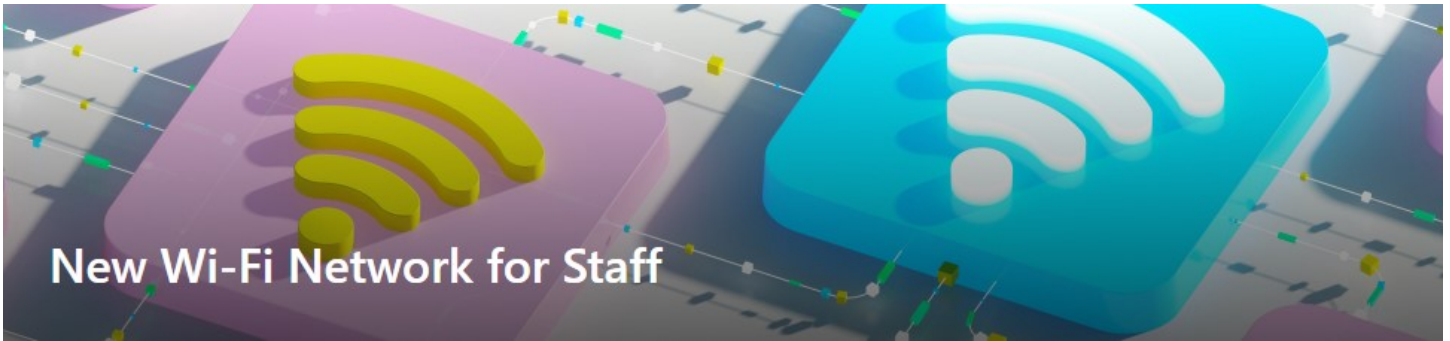
DR. ZACHARY GRAY zachary.gray@tmmc.com at 310-869-3713 or

LAYNE KELLEY at layne.kelley@tmmc.com or 310-517-4719

to request S.O.S.



HELP IS ONLY A CALL AWAY!



Staff and Physicians must use this wireless network with any personal device

TorranceMemorial-Staff

1. Use your network credentials to authenticate and connect.
2. Once you have authenticated and connect, you will remain connected until you click "Forget This Network" in your device's Settings.
3. You should now use this new this network instead of the TMMC-Guest network.
4. Make sure you are on the TMMC campus before going through these instructions.





OKTOBERFEST

Please join us for our upcoming hosted

Physician Luncheon

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

from 11am to 2pm

Sponsored by



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HALLOWEEN PARTY

Please join us for our upcoming hosted

*Physician
Luncheon*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

from 11am to 2pm

Sponsored by



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Medical Staff Calendar

October 2024



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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 8:00a TCU 12:30p Infection P&T	2 7:00a CV Review Conference	3 7:00a Breast Tumor Board 7:45a Gen Tumor Board 12:30p MSPI	4 7:00a Surgery Department 7:00a Thoracic Tumor Board
7 12:30p Cardiology 12:30p Credentials	8 12:30p Donor/Transfusion 6:00p Medical Executive Comm.	9 7:00a Anesthesia PI.....WT-D 7:00a CV Review Conference	10 7:00a Breast Tumor Board 7:00a Cardiac M&M 7:45a GI Tumor Board	11 7:00a Thoracic Tumor Board
14	15 7:00a Practitioner Well Being 12:30p EDIE Patient Care 12:30p Health Information Mgmt	16 7:00a CV Review Conference	17 7:00a Breast Tumor Board 7:45a CNS Tumor Board 8:00a Hunt Cancer Steering 9:00a Emergency Department 12:30p Pediatrics	18 7:00a Thoracic Tumor Board
21 7:30a IRB 12:00p Burn & Wound	22 7:00a BPLC 12:30p OB/GYN Department	23 7:00a CV Review Conference	24 7:00a Breast Tumor Board 7:45a GI Tumor Board 12:30p Family Practice 12:30p Stroke Committee 5:00p Bariatric Surgery	25 7:00a Thoracic Tumor Board
28	29	30	31 7:45a Gen Tumor Board 12:30p Credentials 	



CME CONFERENCES

Date: Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m.

Location: Hoffman Health Conference Center

Torrance Memorial Medical Center is accredited by the Institute for Medical Quality/California Medical Association (IMQ/CMA) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Torrance Memorial Medical Center designates this live activity for a maximum of 1 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

For up-to-the-minute conference information call (310) 784-8776 or visit: http://www.torrancememorial.org/For_Physicians/Wednesday_CME_Conferences.aspx

October 2, 2024

“Introduction to Patient Safety and Adverse Event Analysis”
Bret Barrett, MSN, NP, CPPS
Torrance Memorial Medical Center
Commercial Support: None

October 9, 2024

To be announced

October 16, 2024

To be announced

October 23, 2024

To be announced

October 30, 2024

To be announced

November 6, 2024

To be announced

November 13, 2024

To be announced

November 20, 2024

To be announced

November 27, 2024

To be announced

Welcome New Practitioners



Sobia Ashfaq, MD
Hospitalist, Internal Medicine
Asad U Khaja MD Inc
23639 Hawthorne Blvd., #200
Torrance, CA 90505
Phone: (310) 370-4660
Fax: (877) 486-1368



Tara Krishnasastri, PA
Physician Assistant Cardiac Thoracic Surgery
Torrance Memorial Cardiothoracic Surgery
2841 Lomita Blvd 310
Torrance, CA 90505
Phone: (310) 784-6946
Fax: (310) 326-6005



Ryan B. Cohen, MD
Bariatric Surgery, General Surgery
Torrance Surgical Alliance
21250 Hawthorne Blvd Ste 430
Torrance, CA 90503
Phone: (310) 326-3066
Fax: (310) 326-3068



Raahil Malhotra, DO
Hospitalist, Internal Medicine
Torrance Memorial Hospitalist Associates
3330 Lomita Blvd. TMHA 1st Fl
Torrance, CA 90505
Phone: (310) 891-6623
Fax: (310) 891-6673



Saif Ghias, MD
Hospitalist, Internal Medicine
Asad U Khaja MD Inc
23639 Hawthorne Blvd., #200
Torrance, CA 90505
Phone: (310) 370-4660
Fax: (877) 486-1368



Gabriella L. Victor, MD
Pediatrics
Children's Medical Group
3440 Lomita Blvd., Ste 352
Torrance, CA 90505
Phone: (310) 539-2445
Fax: (310) 539-0061



Physicians/AHP Roster Updates

Address Changes

Allyson A. Estess, MD
Orthopedic Surgery
Commons Clinic
13160 Mindanao Way Suite 300
Marina Del Rey, CA 90292
Phone: (310) 574-0373
Fax: (310) 510-6778

Mridula Kedia, MD
Pediatrics
4201 Torrance Blvd. 370
Torrance, CA 90503
Phone: (310) 540-5676
Fax: (310) 792-2060

Meher F. Raza, DO
Obstetrics/Gynecology
Torrance Memorial Physician Network
29409 South Western Ave
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
Phone: (310) 784-6848
Fax: (310) 831-1228

Resignations

Hossein Eftekhari, MD
Cardiology, Interventional Cardiology

Duong Tommy Hua, MD
Hospitalist, Internal Medicine

Howard Jen, MD
Pediatric Surgery

Navjot Kaur, PA
Physician Assistant General Surgery

Shant Shekherdimian, MD
Pediatric Surgery

Charles Song, MD
Pediatric Allergy Immunology

Retirements

None

Leave of Absence

Richard Boos, MD
Gynecology

Nguyen-Steve Vu, MD
Pulmonology, Critical Care

The Medical Staff Newsletter ***ProgressNotes***
is published monthly for the Medical Staff of Torrance Memorial
Medical Center.

Oren Zaidel M.D.

Chief of Staff

Layne Kelley, MA, CPHQ, CPMSM

Director, Medical Staff Services & Performance Improvement

MONTHLY MEDICAL STAFF NEWSLETTER

Progress Notes



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VOLUME 16 • ISSUE 10 • OCTOBER 2024

