

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Fellows

Class of 2023

**Krishna Akella, MD**

Residency: Internal Medicine – Stony Brook University

Medical School: Louisiana State University School of Medicine in Shreveport

I graduated from Rutgers University with a bachelor's degree in Genetics. After college, I wanted to get some more in-depth experience in medicine and research, so I became a research assistant in a free hospital in Bangalore, India. At the time, my research focus was targeted towards quality improvement. After returning, I went to medical school in my hometown, Des Moines, Iowa. After completing medical school, I was fortunate to get into Internal Medicine residency in Southampton, New York near my parents. I got married at the beginning of intern year. My wife is currently an OB/Gyn resident at the University of Iowa.

Once I completed residency, I was interested in cardiology but wanted the opportunity to improve my CV. I was fortunate to find such a research opportunity very near Iowa, in Kansas City. Within cardiology, my main clinical interest involves use of advanced technology to improve cardiovascular outcomes. I hope to start a podcast eventually on upcoming cardiovascular research designed for the lay public. My passion is research and integration of simple measures for quality improvement in medical practice and clinical education. Personal hobbies of mine include teaching, music, and cooking. HonorHealth stood out to me among other programs in the commitment to education and research. As a new program, there are many opportunities, which I hope to be involved in, shaping the culture and foundation for future graduating classes.

**Parker LaVigne, MD**

Residency: Internal Medicine – Louisiana State University

Medical School: Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine

I was born and raised in Shreveport, Louisiana. I did my undergraduate education at University of Mississippi "Ole Miss" from 2006-10. Afterwards, I went to Mississippi College for a Masters in Biological Medical Sciences. I attended Medical School at LSU Health Science Center in Shreveport from 2012 to 2016 and matched in to Internal Medicine Residency at LSU Health Science Center. I worked as 2019 chief resident and transitioned to Hospitalist for remained of 2019-2020. I matched into Cardiology Fellowship at Honor Health, planning to begin summer of 2020. Cardiology has always been an interest and passion of mine, and I spend time teaching EKGs to residents, interns and medical students. Outside of the medical world, I am your typical Louisiana boy, I enjoy football, golf, eating, cooking, skiing, hunting and fishing.

My wife and I spend the majority of our free time on the coast salt water fishing. I chose Honor Health as a place to continue my training as they are on the front lines when it comes to new therapies and studies in the field of Cardiology.

Class of 2024



Lydia M. Taranto, MD

Residency: Internal Medicine - HonorHealth

Medical School: University of Arizona

I was born and raised in Arizona, I did my undergraduate at Northern Arizona University, and I went to medical school at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Following this, I did an intern year of general surgery at the Phoenix Integrated Surgical Residency, before discovering my passion and moving to the HonorHealth Internal Medicine Residency.

My clinical interest has always been congenital cardiology; over time it has evolved to become adult congenital electrophysiology. I am passionate about the congenital heart population, and I want to be a part of exploring and developing the field of adult congenital heart disease, particularly the EP aspect.

I spent many years in bench-side research, during my time in medical school and residency I transitioned to clinical research. My posters and papers focus on my passion: the heart and the ailments that affect it, be they acquired or congenital.

I chose HonorHealth for many reasons, but the foremost in my mind is the culture. Here I have found a culture that I believe is a model for the future of medical training: respect, constant growth, integrity of academia and clinical work, wellness, and authentic dedication to crafting high-quality physicians. I firmly believe that HonorHealth provided the perfect environmental milieu for me to grow into and to flourish as a physician, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue my training here.



Juan Arturo Siordia, MD

Residency: Internal Medicine – Banner University Medical Center South

Medical School: University of Arizona

I am an Arizona Native originating from Nogales, AZ. I have been in Arizona nearly all my life, including completing Undergraduate, Medical School, and Residency at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson/Banner University Medical Center (South Campus). My clinical/research interests include Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation/Replacement (TAVI/TAVR), Aortic Diseases, and Medical (Cardiovascular) Bioengineering. I was named the resident of the year during my residency and have managed to develop my own patent as well as multiple publications. I aim to become an Interventional Cardiologist capable of doing aortic procedures.

HonorHealth provides everything that I desire (let alone being situated in Arizona). The Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship at HonorHealth contains all my desires throughout the whole field of cardiology; it provides all the education needed to be a unique and excellent cardiologist. Hosting the Scottsdale Interventional Forum, the fellowship also is deemed one of the highest -- if not the highest -- volume of interventions among all the programs in Arizona. I can safely secure my education in becoming a leading and innovating cardiovascular disease specialist while remaining in my home state.

Class of 2025



Lili Barsky, MD

Residency: University of Missouri – Columbia Program

Medical School: Rush University

Originally from Chicago, I completed my undergraduate training at Northwestern University, where I majored in Biomedical Engineering and minored in Film and Media Studies. I then attended medical school at Rush University Medical Center, followed by residency training at Yale New Haven Health/Bridgeport Hospital and Chief Residency at AMITA Saint Francis Hospital. Subsequently, I completed fellowship training at the Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Center of the Cedars-Sinai Smidt Heart Institute in Los Angeles, California. To merge my clinical and engineering backgrounds, I returned to Northwestern, to obtain a Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence, with a focus on cardiovascular disease. Outside of my clinical activities, I also love leading quality improvement initiatives! I have earned two patents for my "Liability Intervention Logistical Innovation" (LILI) technology for hospital-

acquired infection tracking and control and the "Improving Cardiovascular Health Outcomes Award" at the 2016 National American Medical Association Research Symposium. My passion for advocating for marginalized patient populations most recently manifested in my writing and illustrating Understanding the Misunderstood, a guidebook aimed at optimizing interactions between individuals with special needs and their emergency, inpatient and ambulatory care providers.

My hobbies and interests include painting, filmmaking, writing, theater, singing, escape rooms, haunted houses, and serving as a medical script consultant for television series and films!

My reasons for choosing HonorHealth's Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship Program are multifold. I am inspired by HonorHealth's ICARE model, and I appreciate the health system's diverse patient population, spirit of innovation and emphasis on patient-centered care and shared decision-making. I believe that training at HonorHealth will provide me with the best opportunity to make the most out of my unique background and experiences.



Sami Hashmi, MD

Residency: University of Southern California

Medical School: Northwestern University

I grew up originally in Florida, and my family has since moved to Phoenix. I attended undergrad and medical school at Northwestern University in Chicago. Afterwards, I went to the University of Southern California in Los Angeles for residency in internal medicine. My passion for cardiology grew during my residency training, and I was excited to apply to HonorHealth for the opportunity to train at an excellent program, in the same city as my family. I am interested in working with underserved patient populations. I enjoy reading, hiking, playing PC games, astronomy, and chess. Always open to new book recommendations.