
MEDICAL PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER



JULY 12, 2022

San Francisco VA Hospital: Medical Practice
4150 Clement St. SF CA 94121

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Tsion Abraham, MD

Education:

University of Toronto - B.Sc.
George Washington University - M.D

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Abraham

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I grew up in Toronto, Canada and moved to the United States to attend medical school in Washington, DC. As a first generation Ethiopian Canadian, I am passionate about making healthcare accessible to marginalized communities. New to the west coast, I am excited to immerse myself in the vibrant and diverse communities of the Bay Area. I enjoy jogging, hiking, reading, and exploring all that San Francisco has to offer.

Why the VA:

The SFVA shares my values of providing compassionate, accessible, and high value healthcare. I look forward to learning from the veterans that I will be caring for and am I excited to be part of an institution which promotes and supports the health and wellbeing of veterans every day.





Sidney Aung, MD

Education

University of California Los Angeles
(UCLA) - BA
University of California San Francisco
(UCSF) School of Medicine - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Aung / Sid

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English / Burmese

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I was born in Myanmar but grew up mostly in Southern California before moving to San Francisco to attend medical school. I feel incredibly grateful that I am able to pursue my passion for medicine and now have the unique opportunity to care for and improve the lives of others. My other academic interests include conducting clinical research and finding ways to be involved in medical education. I am a huge basketball fan and in my free time I enjoy playing recreationally or watching my favorite NBA teams.

Why the VA:

I went to medical school in San Francisco and did my internal medicine rotation here at the VA, which played a large role in my decision to pursue internal medicine as a specialty. I was deeply inspired by the incredible providers, the VA's commitment to teaching, and most importantly—the amazing Veterans at the VA! It is such a privilege for me to be able to care for Veterans and I am excited to be able give back to this community in any way that I can.



Melissa Bachhuber, MD

Education

University of Wisconsin, Madison - BS
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and
Public Health - MD
University of California, San Francisco - Residency
Training

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Bachhuber or Dr. "B"

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Internal Medicine

Role:

Clinical primary care provider and supervisor for doctors and
nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

After completing my training at UCSF, I joined the San Francisco
VA as a staff physician. I greatly enjoy working with veteran
patients and alongside wonderful colleagues at the San
Francisco VA. I love the natural beauty of California – especially
the high sierras and spending time in the outdoors.

Why the VA:

The VA provides outstanding, high-quality care to veterans in a
team-based, collaborative environment and I am fortunate to
work with a great team in our clinic.





Claudia Barrera, MS, AGPCNP

Education

University of California, Davis - BS
University of California, San Francisco
- MS
NP Residency Program at the SFVA
Center of Excellence in Primary Care
Education

Preferred way to be addressed:

Claudia or NP Barrera

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Spanish

Specialty:

Adult Gerontology-Primary Care, which means I am a specialist in preventive care, chronic disease management, and diagnosing and treating illnesses in adult and older adult patients

Role:

Nurse Practitioner staff, Supervisor of nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

As the first in my immigrant family to go to college, being a nurse practitioner is a dream come true that I love and value. I knew from a young age that I wanted to be a healthcare provider and it is important for me to treat each patient with respect and dignity. I'm originally from Los Angeles, and truly enjoy learning and exploring new things in San Francisco and the surrounding Bay Area.

Why the VA:

The San Francisco VA is where I completed my clinical training and learned that healthcare providers can practice and care for patients holistically. I want to continue delivering completed healthcare including making sure that the veteran populations are not left out. All that work is happening at SFVA. Most importantly, veterans have been some of my best teachers and I am honored to serve and care for them.





Scott Bauer, MD, ScM

Education

University of California, Los Angeles - B.S.
Harvard School of Public Health - Sc.M
University of California, San Francisco - M.D.
University of California, San Francisco -
Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine,
Primary Care

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Bauer

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Internal Medicine, which means I am specialist in preventive care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

Role:

Staff physician

About Me:

I was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. Although I left for training, I was eager to return because of the beautiful surrounding nature, excellent food, and drink, and to be close to my family.

Why the VA:

The San Francisco VA is a dream job for me. It gives me the opportunity to care for a diverse group of patients who are seeking a healthcare team to support their journey towards living a healthy life. Our staff and providers are supportive, caring, and a joy to work alongside. Our team-based model is my ideal work environment.





Alexander Beagle, MD

Education:

University of California, Berkeley - BA
University of California, San Francisco - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Beagle
Alex

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I'm a life-long Californian who values providing thoughtful and equitable care to patients who reflect the great diversity of this state. In medicine, I'm interested in research leveraging data generated from electronic health records to advance our understanding of how to provide care in hospital settings, particularly in the ICU. Outside of the hospital, you'll find me running around San Francisco, walking in the woods, searching out new music (send recs my way!), and hanging out with my wife and our dog.

Why the VA:

The VA exemplifies the delivery of compassionate and equitable care to people of all walks of life in a unified healthcare system. I also enjoy building relationships with patients throughout northern California that come to the SFVA to receive care.



University of California
San Francisco



Alec Borsook, MD

Education:

UCSF, Internal Medicine Residency
Keck School of Medicine of USC - MD
Yale University - BS

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Borsook

Pronoun:

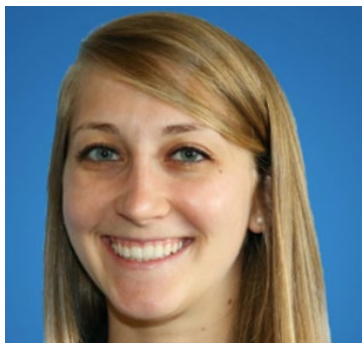
he/him/his

Languages:

English

About Me:

I am an internal medicine resident at UCSF. I am passionate about getting to know my patients in order to develop the best, personalized treatments plans for them, particularly in the management of chronic conditions. I completed my undergraduate studies in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology at Yale University, where I also ran cross country and track and field. I received my MD with Highest Distinction from USC in 2021. The son of a lifelong Californian father and an immigrant mother from the Philippines, I was born and raised in Los Angeles. In my free time, I enjoy cooking and playing the cello.



Julia Chambers, MD

Education:

University of California, Los Angeles - BS
University of California, San Francisco - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Chambers

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I was born and raised in San Francisco and proud to call this city my home! I attended UCLA as an undergrad before returning to San Francisco to start medical school and now Internal Medicine Residency at UCSF. I have interests in clinical reasoning, education, and making systems more efficient for providers and patients. When I'm not at the hospital, you can find me hiking, running, eating good food, and spending time with family.

Why the VA:

I love working with the veteran population. It is a privilege to take care of people who have served and sacrificed for our country, and to do so in a system that values integrity, commitment, advocacy, respect, and excellence.



University of California
San Francisco



Rachel Chang , MD

Education

University of Southern California - BA
Vanderbilt University School of
Medicine - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Chang

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I grew up in Irvine, California all my life and moved to Nashville, TN to attend medical school at Vanderbilt. I am passionate about improving equitable healthcare and medical education and learning more about health administration. I am very excited to make my move to the Bay Area after being a SoCal native all my life! In my free time, I love watching TV, working out, exploring new eats, and hanging out with friends.

Why the VA:

I chose the VA for its unparalleled teaching opportunities and its service to our veterans. I am looking forward to learning from my patients, the VA staff, and faculty mentors here at the VA.





Pei Chen, MD

Education

Michigan State University - B.S.
University of Vermont - M.D.
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center,
Boston, MA - Residency Training, Primary
Care Track
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, NY
Fellowship Training, Geriatric Medicine -
Clinician Educator Track

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Chen or Dr. Pei

(Pronounced as "Pay")

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Mandarin Chinese

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine and Geriatric Medicine. I provide preventive care, complex chronic disease management, diagnosis and treatment of illness, and person-centered care to adults of all ages. I am a specialist in the care of older adults with complex medical conditions and geriatric syndromes, such as frailty, falls, delirium, dementia etc.

Role:

Staff primary care physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training.

About Me:

I come to San Francisco to be closer to my family. When I am not seeing patients, I teach trainees of different levels, including medical students, residents, and fellows, as well as trainees from different professions, nursing, pharmacy, social work, law etc. about the care of older adults. I love teaching trainees about the health care systems and ways in which they can contribute to improving care through quality improvements. I enjoy spending time with my family, traveling, cooking, and eating delicious foods from around the world.

Why the VA:

I came from a family of veterans who served their countries with unwavering beliefs that they would improve the lives of their people. I love hearing and learning about people through their stories. My family stories and the veterans' stories have taught me so much about life and humanity. Coming to the VA allows me to serve those who have given so much to our country and gives me a chance to say, "Thank you!".



Calvin Chou, MD, PhD

Education

Yale University - B.S. Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry - *Cum Laude*

Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons - M.D.

Columbia University - PhD Microbiology

Residency: University of California, San Francisco

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Chou

(Pronounced either “chow” or “joe”)

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Mandarin

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventative care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illness in adults

Role:

Clinic physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I grew up in Chicago and am a die-hard Chicago Cubs fan. I spend much of my time teaching learners at all levels, and I specialize in interpersonal communication (sometimes known as “bedside manner”). I enjoy exercise, playing piano, and in non-pandemic times, travel.

Why the VA:

Having worked in Medical Practice for over 25 years, I am fully committed to the care of veterans. You have experiences in the armed forces that I do not have, and because of my deep admiration for your service, I feel indebted – the way I can give back is to be the best doctor I can be to you.





Beth Cohen, MD MAS

Education

Yale University - BS
University of California, San Francisco -
MD MAS
Internal Medicine Residency - UCSF
Fellowship in Women's Health, San
Francisco VA

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Cohen

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Spanish (Proficient)

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine – adult primary care

Role:

Clinic physician, researcher, and educator

About Me:

I was born and raised in the Northeast but fell in love with the Bay Area when I came here for medical school. I feel very fortunate to have a position that allows me to work with patients, conduct research, and teach medical trainees. Outside of work, I love to cook, garden, and hike as many trails as I can find.

Why the VA:

I first worked at the VA during my training as a medical student and knew it was where I wanted to practice. I love the idea of giving back to Veterans who have served, and several of my family members have had wonderful experiences receiving care from the VA. I am also very interested in the impact of trauma and stress on health. My research focuses on how posttraumatic stress disorder impacts physical health and function and I strive to apply what we learn to my clinical work.





Ella G. Cornell, MD

Education:

The University of Edinburgh - MA Psychology
Columbia University, Certificate in Premedical Science
Boston University School of Medicine - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Cornell

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

About Me:

I am originally from California but grew up between the United States and Italy. I became a doctor because I am passionate about helping people, collaborating to solve problems, and caring for physical and mental health. I am also interested in conducting research and creating policy to address inequalities in healthcare. In my free time I love to cook, ride horses, travel, and spend time with my family.

Why the VA:

The passion of the providers and quality of teaching at the VA is what first inspired me to choose Internal Medicine as my specialty. I feel privileged to be able to give back to Veterans and have learned so much from working at the VA both as a doctor and a person.





Denise L. Davis, MD

Education:

University of Missouri-Kansas City - BA/MD
Internal Medicine Residency Kaiser San Francisco

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Davis

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventative care, as well diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

Role:

Clinic physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I am proud to be the first and only doctor in my family. My mother was a registered nurse and she inspired me to become a physician at a time that there were few women in medicine. As an African American, I am proud of my passion for providing excellent care for groups with a history of being marginalized, which includes doing the work needed to earn all patients' trust

Why the VA:

As a granddaughter, daughter and sister of military veterans, I believe in the vision of high-quality care for veterans. I also love my work in the SFVA Women's Clinic, caring for both veterans and spouses.



Lauren Dryjanski, NP

Education

University of California, Davis - BA, MPH
University of California, San Francisco -
MS, Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner,
Diabetes minor

Preferred way to be addressed:

Lauren or NP Dryjanski

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Spanish (Some)

Specialty:

Adult primary care. This means I work in preventative care, can diagnosis and manage chronic diseases and acute illnesses and work with patients to achieve their health goals

Role:

Primary care provider, continuity care provider (practice partner with other staff MDs/NPs to see their patients when they are not in clinic or fully booked), clinical supervisor for nurse practitioner trainees

About Me:

I am passionate about working in primary care. Before I become a nurse practitioner, I worked in public health. I am the youngest of four and grew up in the Bay Area. I was inspired to become an NP by my mother, who is an Occupational Therapist, and taught me that you should always focus on quality of life, abilities, and have the patient at the center of care decisions. I love baking, walking, traveling, and spending time with family.

Why the VA:

The VA is the largest health system in the country and is government run which is a care model I believe in. Our PACT teams provide high-quality team-based care. I am constantly able to learn from colleagues in other disciplines and the patients we serve. I believe that veterans deserve care that is comprehensive and attuned to veterans' needs. I love working as an NP at the SFVA.



Maya Dulay, MD

Education:

University of California, Davis, - BS
University of California, San Francisco - MD
University of California, San Francisco -
Residency Training

Now Accepting New Patients:

Tuesday Afternoon, Wednesday Morning,
Thursday morning

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Dulay

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventative care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illness in adults

Role:

Clinical Medical Director, primary care physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I joined the San Francisco VA Medical Practice over 10 years ago after living in Northern California all my life and completing my medical training at UCSF. I was inspired to become a doctor from caregivers in my family, particularly my father who was a massage therapist. In addition to primary care, I am interested in keeping older adults healthy and independent, providing safe and high-quality healthcare, and educating nurses and medical trainees.

Why the VA:

I am driven by my family's history of military service, including in the Philippines in World War II. I am also very grateful for the excellent care my father received from the VA before he passed away from dementia. I am grateful for all the resources the VA has at hand to allow me and my team to provide our patients the highest quality care.



Enrique Esteinou, RN, NP

Education:

University of La Verne, B.S. Biology Pre-Health Sciences,
University of California, San Francisco- AGPCNP Candidate,
MSN expected June 2023

Preferred way to be addressed:

Enrique

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English
Spanish

Specialty:

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care

About Me:

I am a passionate UCSF Nurse Practitioner Student completing my training at the SFVA. My primary objective is to learn how to help patients achieve their desired health outcomes in a patient-centered manner. As an aspiring Nurse Practitioner, I am looking forward to working as part of the care team of our patient population. In my spare time, I enjoy hiking, cooking, biking, and watching movies.

Why the VA:

I am very excited to be part of the SFVA team! The VA serves a patient population I respect dearly, and I am very passionate about working with. Additionally, this experience will allow me to learn from an excellent clinical model that provides high quality patient-centered primary care. As an aspiring AGPCNP, I hope to be able to continue to honor the tradition of working closely with the Veteran population and their families.



Carolyn J. Face, MD

Education:

Bryn Mawr College - BA
UCSF School of Medicine - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Face

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

About Me:

I grew up on the east coast near Philadelphia but have lived in San Francisco to learn and practice medicine since 2017. My father works in business forecasting and my mother has a background in costume design and fine arts. I am the only person in my nuclear family to pursue a career in medicine. I am grateful to be able to give back to my community through this profession and blessed to have a job that allows me to continually learn something new each day. Outside of medicine, I also enjoy hiking new trails in the Bay Area, cooking, and gardening.

Why the VA:

I am grateful for the opportunity to give back to the community of Veterans who have selflessly dedicated so much to our country. It is a privilege to learn from my patients at the VA and I strive to provide the highest quality care that will meet their own health care needs and goals.



Albert Feeny, MD

Education:

Johns Hopkins University - BS, Biomedical Engineering
Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine at Case
Western Reserve University - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Feeny

Pronoun:

He/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

About Me:

I grew up in Okemos, Michigan. I have a background in biomedical engineering with training in clinical research. In addition to taking care of patients, I am interested in applying artificial intelligence to clinical medicine. In my spare time, I enjoy playing music and mountain biking in the Bay Area.

Why the VA:

I enjoy taking care of the country's veterans and support the VA's Whole Health approach – designing a care plan for each patient that promotes the patient's individualized values, needs, and goals.



University of California
San Francisco



Laila Fozouni, MD MPH

Education:

UC Berkeley, BA
Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, MPH
Internal Medicine Residency, UCSF

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Fozouni

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Farsi

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventive care, chronic disease management, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

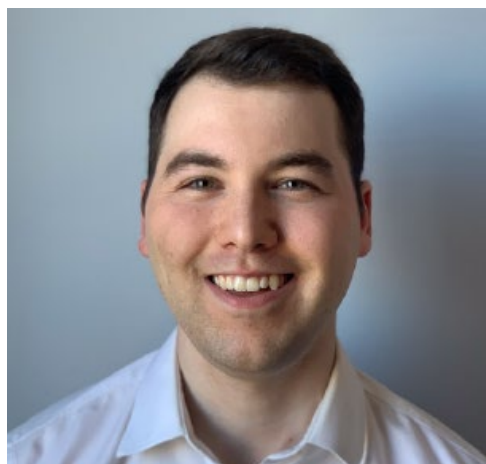
About Me:

I grew up in Sacramento, California, and first moved to the Bay to attend UC Berkeley. I am passionate about working at the intersections of public health, research, and design to promote the health and well-being of my patients. Outside of work, I love being in nature, seeing live music, and spending time with family.

Why the VA:

Veterans have made extraordinary sacrifices and I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide them with high quality and comprehensive care that they deserve.





Michael Fuchs, MD

Education:

Brown University, Sc.B
Harvard Medical School, MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Fuchs (pronounced Few-ks)

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Internal medicine, which means I am doctor who cares for adult patients. I work with patients on preventative care, as well as diagnosis and treatment of illnesses.

About Me:

I am originally from the Northeast but moved to San Francisco to continue my medical training. I have a strong interest in medical education and have a dual degree MD-Master's in Medical Education candidate at Harvard Medical School. I am also interested in epidemiologic research and addressing the social determinants of health. Outside of medicine, I enjoy hiking, painting, running, and spending time with family and friends.

Why the VA:

The VA has a longstanding commitment to medical and patient education. I believe veterans have an important voice in how we teach and deliver government-provided healthcare, and that anyone who serves our country deserves high quality care.



Caitlin Garvey, NP

Education

University of San Francisco - BS,
Psychology, honors
University of California, San
Francisco - MS, Adult Gerontology
Primary Care NP
San Francisco VA Medical Center,
Center of Excellence in Primary Care
Education - NP Residency

Preferred way to be addressed:
Caitlin or NP Garvey

Pronoun:
she/her/hers

Languages:
English

Specialty:

Adult Geriatric Primary Care and Chronic Pain. This means I am trained in preventive care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illnesses in adult and geriatric patients. I have additional experience in the management of chronic pain using a variety of approaches.

Role:

Primary Care Provider, Pain Management Provider, Clinical Director of Integrated Pain Team

About Me:

I grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area and love spending time outdoors, practicing yoga and traveling (when it is safe!). I love nursing and using a team-based approach to treating the whole person that involves movement, lifestyle, and mental well-being. I am especially interested in helping people with chronic pain explore new ways of managing their pain and getting back to the things that matter most to them. I am also a certified yoga instructor and trained in Battlefield Acupuncture.

Why the VA:

I love being part of a team that values high quality inclusive medical care that is proven to work to help veterans at the local and national level. I believe in the San Francisco VA's commitment to extensive team-based care which offers Whole Health and Integrative Health services and programs.



Nathaniel Gleason, MD

Education

Brown University - BA
University of California San Francisco - MD
University of California San Francisco -
Primary Care Internal Medicine Residency
Training

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Gleason

(Pronounced as "Glee-suhn")

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English
Spanish (conversational)

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults, chronic disease management, and preventive care

Role:

Clinic physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I was born in Puerto Rico and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. I was a working musician for 8 years before entering medical school and I'm now the proud father of two teenage boys who both play as well. Professionally, I am committed to making healthcare accessible to everyone and to training our wonderful students and residents. I love my job as a primary care doctor because I spend my day working with people on issues that matter to them. I worked for 10 years at UCSF as a primary care physician and health system leader before coming to San Francisco VA, and I am thrilled to have joined the team at this very special place.

Why the VA:

My father, grandfather, and uncles served in our armed forces. Working with veterans is a way to honor their memory and to support of those who have contributed so much. The quality of care at the VA is remarkable and I am fortunate to be a part of the remarkable, dedicated team.





Sarah Goodman, RN, MSN, AGPCNP-BC

Education

University of California, Davis - B.A.
University of California, San Francisco
School of Nursing - MSN
SFVA EdPACT Nurse Practitioner
Residency

Preferred way to be addressed:

Sarah (pronounced Sah-rah) or NP
Goodman

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Spanish

Specialty:

Adult/Gerontology Primary Care and Cardiology

Role:

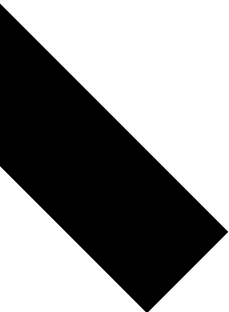
Nurse practitioner

About Me:

I was born and raised in San Francisco and am proud to serve veterans in my home community. After college, I spent time living in New Orleans, where I got my start in healthcare. I returned to FS to do my NP training at UCSF and completed the SFVA Nurse Practitioner Primary Care residency in 2019. I am having a lot of fun working in both Medical Practice and Cardiology! When I'm not at the VA, I love to run, backpack, and paint landscapes of my favorite nature spots.

Why the VA:

I love the supportive climate at the VA, where I truly feel part of a team. I also love getting to know the veterans, who have been some of my best teachers and have the greatest stories. Along with clinic care, I enjoy working with the Medical Practice Patient Advisory Board alongside veteran leaders who are passionate about improving the care we deliver in Medical Practice.





Christopher D. Gordon, MD MBA

Education:

Harvard College - BA
Northwestern University - MD/MBA
University of California, San Francisco - Residency Training
(expected completion June 2024)

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Gordon

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventive care, as well diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

About Me:

I was born and raised in San Antonio, TX, and have more recently lived in the Northeast and the Midwest. I am excited to no longer deal with harsh winters here in the Bay Area. Outside of clinic and the hospital, I enjoy sports, dancing, and playing music.

As an African American man, I am passionate about providing excellent care for groups with a history of being marginalized, and I hope to engage in efforts to improve access to quality healthcare in our community.

Why the VA:

My father and both of my grandfathers served in the military, and I desire to provide the highest level of healthcare to those who have served our country.



University of California
San Francisco



Elizabeth S. Gregg, FNP-C

Education

Macalester College - BA, Psychology
Samuel Merritt University - BS, Nursing
Samuel Merritt University - MS, Family Nurse Practitioner
Residency at West Los Angeles VA - Homeless Patient-Aligned Care Team

Preferred way to be addressed:

Elizabeth or NP Gregg

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Primary Care, which means I am a specialist in preventative care, chronic disease management, and diagnosing and treating illnesses

Role:

Staff primary care provider, supervisor of nurse practitioner residents in training

About Me:

I grew up in rural Tennessee and moved to the Bay Area in 2007 after living in DC for several years. For fun, I like to travel, eat good food, and enjoy all the natural beauty of the Bay Area (often with my dog along). I love working in primary care helping to prevent (and treat) disease. I am happy to be a touchstone for my patients over many years.

Why the VA:

The VA and especially the SFVA, offers the resources and support I need to be the best possible provider to my patients. From all our integrative health resources to prosthetics to our specialty services to behavioral health, it is deeply rewarding to work somewhere where the focus is on getting our Veteran patients exactly what they need when they need it. I am honored to work with this community at the VA and hope to spend my whole career working here.



Olivia Horan, NP

Education:

University of California, San Francisco - RN conferred in 2021, MS expected in June 2023,
SFVA Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education NP Trainee, 2022-2023,
BA Grinnell College, IA 2012

Preferred way to be addressed:

Olivia

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Adult Gerontology Primary Care, which means that I care for adults of all ages, helping them manage their acute and chronic health care needs. I support my patients in disease/illness prevention, and overall health promotion and quality of life.

About Me:

I am a nurse practitioner student with UCSF, and I am completing my clinical training at the SFVA. I see my role as an NP as a partner and teammate, working alongside my patients to support them in their individual health goals. I am passionate about illness prevention, harm reduction, and patient education. When I am not working or at school, I enjoy cooking, baking, rock climbing, and playing with my little husky dog, George.

Why the VA:

I am inspired by the service veterans give to their communities and country and I see working at the VA as an opportunity to honor that service. I am also inspired by the innovative, team-based, and patient-centered work being done by the VA in supporting the unique and often complex needs of the veteran population.



Kenneth Hubbell, MD

Education

Princeton University - BSE
Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Ken

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I grew up in Anchorage, Alaska but attended university and medical school on the east coast. Newly returned to the west coast, I'm excited to serve the diverse veteran population of California. I chose a career in Internal Medicine because I love to learn from my patients and partner with them in pursuit of their health goals. I'm passionate about medical education, quality improvement in healthcare systems, and humanism in medicine. Outside of work I enjoy ceramics, long-distance running, and cooking.

Why the VA:

I'm honored to work for an institution that cares for the families who have served our country. The VA prioritizes compassionate care, continuous improvement, and the education of future providers; and I'm thrilled to be part of that team.



Margarita Huober, NP

Education:

University of California, San Francisco - Master's/AGPCNP candidate, Diabetes minor

University of California, San Francisco - RN

St. Petersburg State Pediatric Medical University - BS, MS in Psychology.

Preferred way to be addressed:

Rita

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Russian

Specialty:

Adult and Gerontology Primary Care which means I care for adolescents, adults, and older adults.

About Me:

I am a nurse practitioner student at UCSF and am here completing my clinical residency. I am passionate about the holistic care of acute and chronic diseases that considers the whole individual and not just their illness. In my spare time, I love taking my dog for long hikes and doing arts and crafts projects.

Why the VA:

I have a strong interest in working with such a remarkable population, in veterans. Furthermore, the VA is a healthcare provider that provides high quality healthcare services to their patients and is equipped with many resources. It is an honor to take part in this institution and serve our veterans.



University of California
San Francisco



Norah S. Karlovich, MD

Education:

Duke University - B.S. & B.A.

Duke University School of Medicine - M.D.

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Karlovich, Dr K, Norah

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine – I treat new and long-term health problems and work with you to keep you healthy.

About Me:

I grew up in Pittsburgh, PA before moving to Durham, NC for college and medical school. I was inspired to become a doctor after working with patients as a hospice volunteer and healthcare consultant. Outside of the clinic, I like to spend time outside with my dog, run, hike, and cheer on Duke basketball and the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Why the VA:

During medical school, I loved listening to and learning from veterans' life stories – both from their time in service and beyond. I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve veterans here in Northern California.



Jeff Kohlwes, MD, MPH

Education:

University of California, Davis - B.S. Physiology
Dartmouth Medical School. MD with Honors
University of Washington. MPH Health Services Research

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Kohlwes (pronounced Coal-wes), Dr. Jeff

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, Urgent Care – meaning I take adult patients with acute or chronic care needs

Role:

Clinic/Emergency Room physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I grew up in the SF Bay Area living on a small sailboat in Sausalito's main harbor. My Father was first mate on a tugboat and my mother became a ferry boat Captain after raising her two children. I was the first physician in my family and feel blessed to have found this profession that lets me help others.

Why the VA:

Coming from working class roots, I grew up around military veterans who taught me to be hardworking and selfless. What could be a better place to be a physician than the VA where we give back to those who have given so much to us. I also believe that healthcare provided by the government works, and nowhere can you see this more than the VA where we provide world class quality care that focuses on the Veteran.



Pooja Lalchandani, MD

Education

University of California, Berkeley - B.A.
University of California, San Francisco -
MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Lalchandani

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I grew up in different parts of the Bay Area and attended medical school in San Francisco at UCSF. I deeply enjoy working for the communities that I have grown up within. In medicine, I am passionate about improving healthcare for underserved communities, taking an integrative approach to medicine, and collaborating with my patients to create their best plan of care. In my free time, I enjoy hiking, cooking, playing music, and traveling.

Why the VA:

I am inspired by the community within the SFVA between the patients, staff, and providers, as well as resources available to care for its patients. I am grateful to learn from our veterans and support their holistic health as best as I can.



Robert Lemons, MD

Education

Stanford University - B.S. Biological Sciences
University of Vermont College of Medicine,
MD
California Pacific Medical Center - Internal
Medicine Residency Program

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Lemons

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Internal Medicine, which means I am specialist in preventive care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I am a native Californian and have spent my entire 25+ year professional career within the VA system. I originally started my career with the Palo Alto VA Health Care System and have been with the SFVA Medical Center for over the last seven years. Along with my partner, I have lived in San Francisco for over the last twenty years enjoying this city. In my free time, if not on a trip to Mexico, is spent in the gym, running, reading, gardening, and chasing our miniature schnauzer around the house.

Why the VA:

I feel lucky to work at the VA where Veterans are given care that supports the whole-person and provides high quality medicine based on the latest science. I believe in good government sponsored healthcare, and nowhere do you see this more than at the SFVA where we provide top class, quality care that focuses on the Veteran.





Erricka Lewis, NP

Education:

Samuel Merritt University Grad Class of 2021

Preferred way to be addressed:

Erricka

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Spanish (Conversational)

Specialty:

Family Nurse Practitioner, which means I am a provider who focuses on preventive care, as well as diagnosing, treating, and managing chronic illnesses in adults, children, and women.

About Me:

I was born and raised in Oakland Ca. I received my undergrad in SoCal at UCSB and graduated last fall from Samuel Merritt University. As a healthcare provider, I believe in fairness and equity. I see patients as complex individuals and strive to provide patient centered quality care.

Why the VA:

As an NP student I spent a rotation working at a VA transitional housing program providing resources and outreach. This experience helped me understand the lifelong struggle many veterans face transitioning back to civilian life. I believe the VA is an excellent place to learn and grow professionally as a Nurse Practitioner.





Lily Loew, NP

Education

University of California, Berkeley-
B.A. Public Health
Yale University School of Nursing-
M.S.N Family Nurse Practitioner-Specialty
Diabetes
Santa Rosa Community Health-
Family Nurse Practitioner Residency Program
(18-month ANCC Accredited Training
Program)

Preferred way to be addressed:

Lily or NP Loew

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Spanish (Basic)

Specialty:

Primary Care, which means I am a specialist in preventive care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illnesses.

Role:

Staff primary care provider, Women's Clinic and Medical Practice.

About Me:

I love being a primary care provider for the VA. It has been an honor to provide care to so many patients over the years. I am passionate about tailored, preventative and holistic health care. I grew up in Arizona and moved to the Bay Area to attend college in 2005. Aside from spending a few years on the East Coast to attend nursing school, I have been in the bay area ever since. I feel lucky to live in such a beautiful place! I enjoy traveling, hiking, backpacking, and spending quality time with family and friends.

Why the VA:

The VA is a phenomenal healthcare system equipped with a multitude of resources which enables my team and me to provide the highest quality of care. I am also motivated by both of my grandparents who served in World War II.





Natalie Lucas, NP

Education:

University of California, Los Angeles – BA Psychology
Samuel Merritt University – MSN - FNP, RN, PHN

Preferred way to be addressed:

Natalie

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Family Nurse Practitioner, which means I am a provider who focuses on preventive care, as well as diagnosing, treating, and managing chronic illnesses in adults, children, and women.

About Me:

I grew up in Berkeley, CA after moving from Gulfport, MS at a young age and attended UCLA. After graduation I had a successful career in the pharmaceutical industry for many years. Recently, I had the opportunity to pursue a long-time career goal of serving vulnerable communities as a Nurse Practitioner. I enjoy interacting and caring for older adults and am interested in promoting preventative care. I love antiques, classic cars, hiking and vacationing with my family.

Why the VA:

As part of my nursing program, I had an amazing experience serving as a community health advocate at a homeless Veteran's transitional facility. I was honored to develop programs based on the specific needs voiced by the Veteran community. The residents were very grateful that someone cared about their expressed needs and responded in kind. I look forward to uncovering and meeting the needs of the SFVA Veteran community while providing quality medical and preventative care.



Alison Ludwig, MD

Education

Undergraduate University of California,
Berkeley - BS Political Theory
Medicine Temple University School of
Medicine - MD
Residency UCSF Primary Care Internal
Medicine

Preferred way to be addressed:

Alison or Dr. Ludwig

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Internal Medicine

Role:

Primary Care Provider

About Me:

I'm from Michigan, fell in love with California during college and am happy to be able to find a work life here. Before becoming a doctor, I spent several years working in politics and for non-profit advocacy groups in Washington DC. I wanted to be able to better help patients with their day-to-day issue. I have been happy to find a home at UCSF and San Francisco VA.

Why the VA:

I chose the VA because I believe it is one of the best safety net systems in the US where physicians can practice high quality medicine with the needed resources to address the many medical, social, psychological issues facing Veterans. I love having a connection to UCSF and feel good to provide care to the Veterans in this system. It is my honor to care for Vets.





Trisha Macrae MD, PhD

Education

University of Chicago - BA UCSF, PhD
UCSF School of Medicine - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Macrae

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I am from San Francisco originally and am passionate about caring for my local community. One of the main reasons I became an Internal Medicine doctor is the opportunity to get to know my patients over time and learn their stories. Professionally, I am also a lab scientist and study how the environment impacts our genes during development, disease, and regeneration. Outside of work, I enjoy spending time outdoors, reading, and making a mess in the kitchen.

Why the VA:

I was drawn to the warmth of the SFVA community. I am excited to be part of an institution with a deep commitment to teaching and providing patient-centered, high-value care to our Veterans.



Emily Marogi , MD

Education

Loyola University Chicago - B.A.; B.S.
Northwestern Feinberg School of
Medicine – MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Marogi

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Syriac

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I was born in Toronto, Canada but have since moved around a lot, though I always consider Chicago, Illinois my home. As the daughter of refugees, it has been my goal and aspiration to serve marginalized and vulnerable communities as a physician. I am so excited to start that journey in San Francisco where I have been delighted by the beautiful sights, running trails, markets and, above all, community.

Why the VA:

I am so inspired by the community that finds its home in the San Francisco VA and feel so lucky to help serve and care for a population of patients who have served and cared for us as a country. I am greatly honored to be able to connect with our Veterans and know I will learn so much both in medicine and life



Aya Matsushima, NP

Education:

University of California San Francisco - MS

Preferred way to be addressed:

Aya

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Adult Geriatric Primary Care

About Me:

I am from San Francisco where I also worked as a respiratory therapist before pursuing a career as a nurse practitioner. I am a first-generation college graduate and am so grateful for the opportunities I have had to further my education and career. When I am not working, I like to bake, read, hike, and explore new places around the world with the people I love.

Why the VA:

It would be an honor for me to give back to those who have given so much to this country.

The VA has put in so much effort to train and nurture clinicians to deliver the best care possible to our veterans and I feel very privileged to be a part of a care team that values teamwork, communication, and quality.



Ashley M. McMullen, MD

Education

Trinity University - B.S. Neuroscience
University of Texas at Houston, McGovern
Medical School - MD
University of California, San Francisco,
Internal Medicine - Primary Care Residency
University of California, San Francisco,
Internal Medicine, Ambulatory Chief Resident

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. McMullen

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Internal Medicine, I am a specialist in preventive care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illness in adults.

Role:

Staff primary care physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training at Medical Practice as well as our Downtown Clinic

About Me:

I grew up in Houston, TX and in the Chicago suburbs where I was lucky enough to spend a lot of time with my grandparents. After medical school, I moved out to California to complete my training at UCSF in the Internal Medicine program. I fell in love with the Bay Area, so I decided to stay! In my spare time I really enjoy checking out vintage book shops, reading in sunny Dolores Park, and biking the flat parts of the city.

Why the VA:

I believe the SFVA helps set the standard for high value, patient centered primary care. I also really love being able to supervise and mentor the phenomenal students and residents who train here. Furthermore, I am the granddaughter of a proud USMC Vietnam combat veteran and have several other veterans in my family. I choose to honor them by helping care for those who've served our country.



Katherine Murphy, NP

Education

University of California, Santa Cruz - BA Linguistics
University of California, San Francisco - MS Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
SFVA, EdPACT NP Residency

Preferred way to be addressed:

Kate or NP Murphy

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Spanish

Specialty:

Adult-Geriatric Primary Care, which means I am a specialist in preventative care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illnesses in adult and geriatric (older) patients

Role:

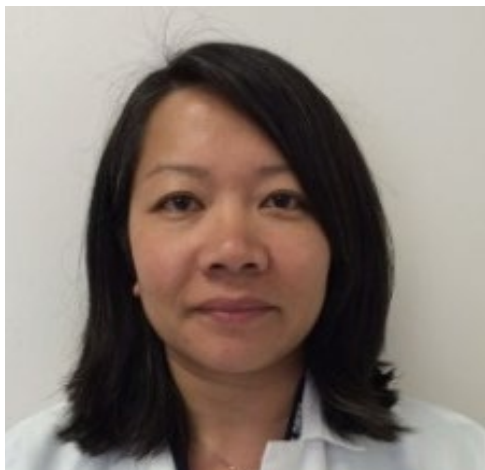
Staff primary care provider

About Me:

Originally from Colorado, I moved to the greater Bay Area to go to college and fell in love with this state and region. I am so grateful to get to live in such a beautiful and diverse city like San Francisco and to work with inspiring veterans and staff at the VA. When I'm not in Medical Practice, you can find me at a playground with my kids, working in my garden, riding my bike, camping, or doing a variety of DIY projects.

Why the VA:

I was very lucky to train at the San Francisco VA in Medical Practice during my Nurse Practitioner training at UCSF. Generally, I believe that the VA provides the kind of quality care that everyone deserves. The way that everyone works together in the Medical Practice is amazing, making it possible for Veterans to get such high-quality care. I am honored and grateful to be part of such a great team and important effort.



Nha-Ai Nguyen-Duc, MD

Education

University of California, Davis - B.S. Biology
Rosalind Franklin University / The Chicago
Medical School - M.D.
Yale University School of Medicine, Yale-New
Haven Hospital - Internal Medicine Residency

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Nguyen-Duc

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am specialist in preventive care, chronic disease management, and diagnosing and treatment of illnesses in adults and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

Role:

Clinic physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I grew up in San Francisco. After being away for medical school and residency training, I was eager to return to my hometown to work and be near my family.

Why the VA:

I decided to work at the VA Health Care System after my wonderful experience taking care of veterans at the West Haven VA during my residency training. The VA provides excellent, comprehensive care for our veterans.





Charles Noyes, NP

Education

University of California San Francisco
Primary Care Residency, San Francisco VA

Preferred way to be addressed:

Charles

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Adult-Geriatric Primary Care, which means I specialize in preventative care, chronic disease management, and diagnosing and treating illnesses in adult and geriatric (older) patients.

Role:

Nurse Practitioner, Staff Primary Care Provider, Attending Clinician for Nurse Practitioners in training, Clinical Educator and NP Faculty Member

About Me:

I am a Nurse and a Veteran, and a San Francisco Bay Area native. I served in the military for 4 years with the Navy Seabees, including being deployed to Afghanistan in 2011. I trained to become a Nurse Practitioner at UCSF. I followed in the footsteps of my grandmother and my mother and became a nurse. I'm grateful to be continuing my work in service to the Veterans.

Why the VA:

The long history of military service in my family and being a Veteran, myself is why I serve at the VA. Not only is the VA an incredible place to practice medicine, but it is also a home to me – as a nurse and a patient – and my work here is a way to continue my service to the Veterans and our community.





Adrian Nunez, NP

Education:

University of California, Davis – BS, Biochemistry
University of California, San Francisco – Registered Nurse
University of California, San Francisco –MS c/o 2022
SFVA Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education –NP
Trainee Program

Preferred way to be addressed:

Adrian

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English
Spanish

Specialty:

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care, which means I specialize in caring for adults of all ages, with a concentration in HIV care and prevention.

About Me:

I was born and raised in Stockton, CA, in the heart of California's farmland. Being from an immigrant family from Mexico, I was the first in my family to graduate from college and now the first to be trained as a primary care provider. I value family, community, culture, and justice. My favorite things to do are to eat at restaurants across the Bay Area, enjoy family get-togethers, and traveling.

Why the VA:

The VA is known to be one of the best healthcare delivery institutions in the country and wanted to be part of its efforts to serve veterans and their families. I also enjoy working with adults on the prevention and management of diseases, and to achieve health care goals.



Krista Odden, NP

Education

University of Maryland, College Park - BS
Public & Community Health -
summa cum laude

University of California, San Francisco -
MS - Adult Gerontology, Primary Care
Nurse Practitioner, Diabetes Minor

Preferred way to be addressed:

Krista or NP Odden
(Pronounced Oh-den)

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Adult-Geriatric Primary Care, which means I am a specialist in preventative care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illnesses in adult and geriatric (older) patients

Role:

Lead NP Primary Care, staff primary care provider, Musculoskeletal Clinic NP, supervisor of nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I love being a primary care provider and helping Veterans live, happier and more fulfilling lives. I believe in the importance of complete health care with not just medications, but exercise, nutrition, and mental wellbeing. I am grateful the SFVA has so many resources to support Whole Health. I grew up in Northern Minnesota and moved to California in 2011 to attend UCSF. I enjoy backpacking, swimming, yoga and reading. I swam from Alcatraz over 7 times, mostly without a wetsuit and did an English Channel Relay crossing.

Why the VA:

I love my job and feel lucky to work with a great staff and providers in the SFVA Medical Practice clinic. My father, a Marine Corps Vietnam Veteran, inspired me to dedicate my career to caring for Veterans.





Sheila Ojeaburu, MD, MPH

Education

Harvard University - BA

University of Washington - MD

University of Washington - MPH

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Ojeaburu

(Pronounced O-jee-a-boo-roo)

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I was born in Nigeria and have lived in various parts of the country, along with brief stints abroad. I became a doctor because I believe it is a privilege to hear patients' stories. I hope to utilize a whole-person approach to doctoring—one that accounts for the social and other factors that impact health and access to care. I am also passionate about helping to address the health needs of immigrant and other often marginalized communities. I enjoy reading/learning new things, creative writing, attending concerts, spending time with my family and friends, and tasting the best pastries in town

Why the VA:

I am drawn to the VA's emphasis on providing patients with high quality care in a welcoming, culturally sensitive environment that addresses the needs of the individual patient and their families. I am excited to become part of the VA community of providers, and work to support this mission.



Robera M. Oljira, MD

Education:

University of California Los Angeles - MD
University of Colorado Denver - BS

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Oljira

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English
Amharic
Afan Oromo

Specialty:

My specialty is Internal Medicine. I take care of adults with a wide range of diseases when they are in the hospital and also visiting their doctor's office.

About Me:

I am the first in my family to graduate from college. I am also the only doctor in my family. I grew up in Ethiopia where there many sick people but not a lot of doctors which made me interested in medicine. As an immigrant and African American, I am passionate about caring for all patients equally.

Why the VA:

My father was a medical assistant for veterans in Ethiopia. I am proud to be working with military veterans and give excellent medical care as he did. I find working at the VA very rewarding and meaningful.





Nadine Pardee, MD

Education

Brown University - Sc.B
Columbia University College of Physicians
& Surgeons - MD
University of California, San Francisco,
Internal Medicine Residency Training, San
Francisco General Hospital Primary Care
Track

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Pardee

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Basic Spanish

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventive care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

Role:

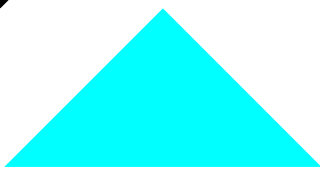
Clinic Education Director for the UCSF Internal Medicine Residency Program, Staff primary care physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I grew up in Southern California and spent 10 years on the east coast before returning to the Golden State to be a resident at UCSF. Professionally, I am committed to educating future healthcare providers and to the healthcare of women. I also enjoy caring for patients as a primary care provider in our transgender clinic.

Why the VA:

From our training program for some of the nation's best and brightest, to our state-of-the-art virtual care, the SFVA allows me to deliver high quality, patient care that focuses on the Veteran. I am proud of that. I am so lucky to work with such a talented and dedicated group of nurses, nurse practitioners, medical assistants, pharmacists, behavioral health providers, social workers, and medical specialists (just to name a few!) at the SFVA, who create a true medical home to support veteran health and wellness.





Karishma Patel, MD

Education

UC Berkeley - BA
Oregon Health & Science University -
MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Patel

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I grew up in Vancouver, Washington and came to the Bay Area for the first time to attend UC Berkeley as an undergrad. I went back to the Pacific Northwest to OHSU for medical school. I am passionate about providing humanistic care to diverse populations from all walks of life. I am excited to be back in the Bay Area and look forward to exploring the outdoors through hiking and trail running in my free time.

Why the VA:

I enjoy working with Veterans and learning from their bravery, strength, and selflessness. I look forward to immersing myself in the tight-knit community that the VA offers, focused on education, service, and compassion. It is a privilege to be able to serve and honor our Veterans through helping to provide high quality, accessible care at the SFVA.



Parvin Peddi, MD

Education

Royal College of Medicine, University of London, England - MB - BS
University of Cincinnati, Ohio
Residency - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Peddi or Dr. P

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Adult Internal Medicine, which means I take care of adult patients and focus on preventive care to help patients stay healthy and independent. I also manage chronic disease states, evaluate symptoms, and treat adult illnesses.

Role:

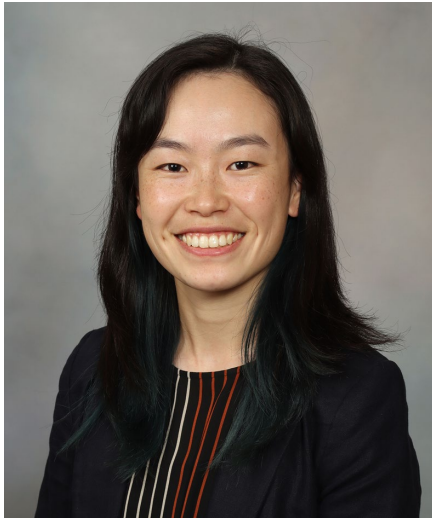
Clinic physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I was born and raised in England and after finishing medical school in London, my husband and I moved to Cincinnati in 1993 and then to the Bay Area in 2003. We have loved raising our twins in the beautiful Bay Area and enjoy traveling back home to India and England to visit family and friends. My working-class Indian immigrant parents taught me the value of hard work and giving back. Their support made my dreams come true – to become the first Indian woman doctor in my family and to find a way to give back by helping care for others.

Why the VA:

I started working at the San Francisco VA in 2003. Every veteran's story has inspired me to dedicate my career to serve and care for them. I am also inspired by the diverse and committed team of providers and staff at the SFVA Medical Practice clinic I work with, because they have chosen to serve and support our veteran community. I am very proud and feel truly blessed to work at SFVA.



Lillian Peng, MD

Education

University of California, Los Angeles -
BS in Bioengineering
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine -
MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Peng

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I grew up in Los Angeles, California and moved to Rochester, Minnesota for medical school and am now excited to be back in California. I became a doctor because I enjoy building relationships with patients and working in teams to solve problems and promote health. I am also interested in culturally sensitive care, medical education, and wellness in medicine. In my free time, I enjoy running, climbing, playing soccer, playing guitar, and hand lettering.

Why the VA:

I value the VA's mission of providing compassionate, patient-centered, high value care to veterans. It is a privilege to serve veterans and partner with them to manage their health. I look forward to hearing their stories and learning from their experiences.





Abigail Phillips, MD

Education

Yale University - BS
University of California, San Francisco - Medical school
and Internal Medicine Residency

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Phillips

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine

Role:

Clinic Physician at San Bruno CBOC and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training at Medical Practice clinic and San Bruno CBOC

About Me:

I am originally from Connecticut, and I grew to love the Bay Area when I came here for medical school close to 20 years ago. I enjoy spending time outdoors with my daughter and my chocolate lab.

Why the VA:

I grew up with many Veterans in my family, and I have always seen the value that Veteran-centered care provides. I think the care we provide at the VA is world-class, and I truly enjoy working on teams with all my colleagues here.





McKinsey (Max) Pillsbury, MD

Education:

Dartmouth College - BA
Mills College (Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical Program)
UCSF School of Medicine - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Max or Dr. Pillsbury

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I am interested in General Internal Medicine and plan to eventually practice in a rural community. By serving in this setting, I hope to expand equitable access to care for patients who live far from large academic medical centers. This includes both direct patient care as well as working to enhance referral systems, telehealth modalities, and resident education in rural medicine. As an upcoming VA Chief Resident for the 2023-2024 academic year, I am interested in expanding UCSF's rural health opportunities for residents. I also hope to develop close personal relationships with my patients and work with them over many years. I have a background in global health, wilderness medicine, and the humanities. In my spare time, I love to bike, backpack, and cook with friends.

Why the VA:

I have worked in the VA throughout medical school and residency and have always considered it to be my home for medical education at UCSF. It is a remarkable privilege to serve Veterans and I appreciate the ability to provide comprehensive care through the VA health system. VA is known to be one of the best healthcare delivery institutions in the country and wanted to be part of its efforts to serve veterans and their families. I also enjoy working with adults on the prevention and management of diseases, and to achieve health care goals.





Karena Y. Puldon, MD

Education

Northwestern University - BA
University of California, San Francisco - MD
Internal Medicine Residency, University of California,
San Francisco

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Puldon (Pronounced: Pool-dawn)

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Internal Medicine, I am a specialist in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

About Me:

I'm from Los Angeles but am very happy to call San Francisco home after spending 9 years in the Bay Area, completing medical school at UCSF, and now joining the UCSF Internal Medicine residency program. I was inspired to become a doctor by the medical difficulties my Cuban/Ecuadorian family and community experienced after moving to California. The combination of my background and training at UCSF gives me a unique skillset in trauma informed care. I am committed to providing the best quality healthcare to all patients, of all backgrounds, and feel blessed to work in a profession that lets me help others.

Why the VA:

Coming from a working-class background, caring for family members with traumatic backgrounds, substance use disorders, mental illness, and other medical conditions for over 20 years, I am proud to support the diverse patient community at the VA and keep patients healthy. I'm grateful that the SFVA prioritizes the highest quality training and resources for my patients as I continue my residency training.



Nathan Radakovich, MD

Education:

Whitman College - BA
Cleveland Clinic/Case Western Reserve - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Radakovich

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which involves taking care of both preventative health and managing chronic conditions in adult patients.

About Me:

I come from a family of healthcare workers and teachers. Growing up in a small college town, I saw the positive impact that those professions could have on a community. During college and medical school, I especially enjoyed getting to know patients over time and helping them get the most out of their healthcare. I chose internal medicine because it gave me the opportunity to see a diverse group of patients from many different backgrounds, each with their own set of health challenges. Outside of medicine I love biking, running, and playing music.

Why the VA:

Working with patients and families at the VA in Cleveland was one of the highlights of medical school for me. Patients came from all over the region and as a student I really appreciated the learning environment as well as the privilege of caring for veterans; I am excited to continue that during this next phase of my training in San Francisco.





Sara-Megumi Rumrill, MD

Education

Brown University - B.S. Honors in Biochemistry
New York University, School of Medicine - M.D.
University of California, Los Angeles Medical Center - Residency Training, Primary Care and Global Health Tracks

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Rumrill

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Japanese

Specialty:

Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventative care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illness in adults.

Role:

Clinic Associate Medical Director, staff primary care physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I love primary care and being the point person for patients in the VA Healthcare System. I am passionate about quality and safety in primary care. I was born in Colorado and grew up in Tokyo, Japan. I love to bake, hike, and travel. I am grateful to live in the Bay Area, close to family and lots of nature.

Why the VA:

The VA Healthcare System provides high quality care that is based on science and supports the whole person. It is truly an outstanding health system in the US where patients, providers and staff work together for better health outcomes for our diverse patient population. I worked at the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center before coming to San Francisco. I plan on spending my whole career at the VA!





Alison S. Rustagi, MD

Education

Stanford University - BA
University of Washington - PhD
University of California, San Francisco - MD
University of California, San Francisco -
Internal Medicine Residency

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Rustagi or Dr. Alison

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventative care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illness in adults

Role:

Primary care physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I grew up in Minnesota but fell in love with the West Coast when I came here for college and never left. I love working as part of a team to help people stay healthy and meet their goals, through clinical work and research.

Why the VA:

I'm the granddaughter of a veteran, and the third generation in my family to work at the VA as a doctor. The VA's mission of service, its integrated care model, and the collaborative team-based approach to providing the best care possible motivated me to work at the VA. It's a privilege to be here and take care of veterans.





Ilana Seidel, MD ABIHM

Education

Hunter College - BA
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine - MD
Forbes Family Medicine Residency
Washington DC Veterans Affairs Integrative Medicine Fellowship

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Seidel

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Hebrew

Specialty:

Family Medicine, Integrative Medicine, Whole Health, Heart Rate Variability Biofeedback, which means I specialize in providing both standard and new and different, science-based treatments into preventive care, managing chronic disease, wellness promotion, and diagnosing and treating illnesses.

Role:

Medical Director of the Integrative Health and Wellness Clinic, Co-Medical Directory of the Post Covid Clinic, clinic physician, and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training.

About Me:

I am the granddaughter of activists and Holocaust survivors, and daughter of a 1st generation immigrant and a prosecutor. Because of this, I live life with intention, curiosity, and purpose. Experiencing joy, community, and family are all very important to me.

Why the VA:

My Integrative Medicine Fellowship at the Washington D.C. Veterans Affairs introduced me to Whole Health and inspiring veterans. The chance to return to the VA is a gift I treasure. It allows me to serve our veterans, trainees, and many other health professionals using Whole Health.





Christopher Sha, MD

Education

Brown University - Sc.B Neuroscience
University of Pennsylvania - MD
University of California, San Francisco -
Residency Training, San Francisco General
Primary Care Track

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Sha

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Internal Medicine, which means I am a specialist in preventative care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

Role:

Primary care physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I come from the east coast, but I've really valued coming to California and to the SFVA. It is a fantastic place with wonderful clinical support. The bay area has many things I love, rock climbing, live music, and beautiful nature. My interests include educating residents, teaching communication skills, and mindfulness and meditation to improve well-being.

Why the VA:

Veterans have served our country in extraordinary ways, and I enjoy giving back to a community that has given a great deal. The SFVA values teaching our future providers, which is also a large part of my role and job, which I enjoy and feel passionate about.





Shu Hua Shen, RN, NP

Education

University of California, San Francisco -
MSN expected Spring 2023
SFVA Center of Excellence in Primary
Care Education - NP trainee
San Francisco State University - BSN
City College of San Francisco - AND

Preferred way to be addressed:

Sherry

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Mandarin
Conversational Cantonese

Specialty:

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care, my focus is assessing and managing common acute and multiple chronic health conditions to achieve health promotion and maintenance for adults of all ages diabetes, skills to provide counseling and care in Diabetes management

About Me:

I have practiced as a registered nurse since 2014 in varied healthcare settings. I am currently pursuing my master's degree in adult gerontology primary care at UCSF. I have a minor in diabetes management. I joined the SFVA Patient Aligned Care Teams to continue my learning journey in primary care. I am the first-generation college graduate in my family, I am dedicated to care for my family as they have unconditionally supported me throughout my school years. In my spare time, I enjoy outdoor activities, swimming, cooking, trying different foods, and spending time with my family and friends.

Why the VA:

SFVA EdPACT is well-known in providing an excellent primary care learning system to support NP students' growth. I am excited to be part of the team and to thrive in this NP role. Moreover, I am proud of and feel honored to provide care to people who are devoted to serving our country.





Michael G. Shlipak, MD, MPH

Education

Dartmouth College - B.A.
Harvard Medical School - M.D.
Harvard School of Public Health - M.P.H.
University of California, San Francisco -
Internal Medicine Residency and Research
Fellowship

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Shlipak

Pronoun:

He/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty: General Internal Medicine, which means I am specialist in preventative care, diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

Role:

I am the Scientific Director of the Kidney Health Research Collaborative, which has the mission of preventing and treating chronic kidney disease. Research is my calling, and I lead a large team of talent people who are dedicated to improving the health of people with- or at risk for – kidney disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and/or heart disease.

About Me:

I grew up in the Dallas Area but moved to New England for 9 years for my education. Since coming to San Francisco in 1995, I have never wanted to live anywhere else.

Why the VA:

I have worked in the Medical Practice clinic as a primary care provider, since 1996 when I was a UCSF medical resident. During the UCSF residency, I learned that the VA Healthcare System is the best in the United States and provides patients with quality and respectful care. I have been offered jobs in other places, but I choose to dedicate my career to Veterans.





Rebecca Shunk, MD

Education

Converse College, BS Biology -

Magna Cum Laude

Medical University of South Carolina -

MD

University of Chicago - Residency

John Hopkins Bayview - Chief Residency

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Shunk

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I am specialist in preventative care, diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults

Role:

Clinic physician and supervisor for doctors and nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I am originally from South Carolina and have an accent. I came to CA and the SFVA 20 years ago after being recruited to UCSF/SFVA. I LOVE California and especially caring for veterans. I have 3 kids and 1 dog. I LOVE to hike in the California hills, read and cook. I am starting some new hobbies such as learning to sail!

Why the VA:

I never really knew my mission in life until I started caring for veterans. I feel I have skills that make me especially equipped to care for veterans. First and foremost, I am a good listener and veterans trust me because of this. I greatly appreciate the resources I can share with veterans and the time the VA provides for me to care for veterans. The team-based model is really the best part. We are so fortunate to have teammates that know how to work together to support each other in the care of veterans.





Michael Steinman, MD

Education

Brown University, BA
Harvard Medical School, MD
University of California, San Francisco -
Residency in Primary Care Internal
Medicine
University of California, San Francisco -
Fellowship in Geriatrics
University of California, San Francisco,
and the San Francisco VA Medical
Center – VA Quality Scholars Program
Fellowship

Preferred way to be addressed:
Dr. Steinman

Pronoun:
he/him/his

Languages:
English

Specialty:

Geriatrics

Role:

Clinic and hospital Physician

About Me:

I grew up in Boston and came to San Francisco for residency (further training after medical school), thinking I would return to the East Coast after 3 years. It is now more than 20 years later, and I am still very happy to call the Bay Area my home. When I am not working with patients, I spend much of my time doing research. My research focuses on understanding the problems that older adults have with medicines and trying to find ways to improve how medicines are prescribed and used among older adults.

Why the VA:

I love caring for veterans, hearing their stories and helping those who have served our country. I am grateful to practice in a health care system that, while not perfect, provides services and resources to older veterans that are often hard to get anywhere else.





Lakshmi Subbaraj, MD

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) - BS
University of California, San Francisco - MD
University of California, San Francisco - Internal Medicine Residency

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Subbaraj

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I grew up in Fremont, California in the East Bay. After spending some time on the East Coast, I found my way back to my hometown to attend medical school at UCSF, which is also where I am now completing my residency training. I plan to further specialize in gastroenterology post residency and am interested in using clinical databases to improve equity and outcomes in patients with liver and gastroenterological diseases. Outside of medicine, I enjoy strategic board games, practicing landscape photography, and spending time outdoors playing tennis, hiking, and camping.

Why the VA:

I share the VA's goals to provide compassionate, equitable, and high-value care for all veterans.





Nicholas Thomas, MD

Education

University of Pennsylvania, BA
University of California, San Francisco -
MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Thomas

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I grew up in Traverse City, Michigan, and spent most of my childhood enjoying life on the lake—sailing, boating, fishing. In college I majored in Biology, and before medical school I worked as a space biology researcher at the NASA Ames Research Center in Mountain View, CA. Now, as a resident, I am heavily involved in cancer and health equity research which I hope to do for the rest of my career. In my free time, I enjoy going to classical music concerts (I'm a lifelong violinist), exploring new hiking trails, and trying new restaurants.

Why the VA:

I deeply respect the sacrifices veterans have made for our country and feel privileged to have the opportunity to care for them. I am also personally connected to many veterans in my family and feel this is a patient population near and dear to my heart. I am excited to work in the VA health system, where patients are so well taken care of, and our medical staff is some of the best in the country to call co-workers.



Eleanor (Ellie) Tressel, RN, NP

Education:

University of California, Davis- BS
Creighton University- Bachelor's in Nursing
University of California, San Francisco- MS expected June 2022
SFVA Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education- NP trainee

Preferred way to be addressed:

Ellie

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Adult Gerontology Primary Care, which means she cares for adults of all ages managing acute and chronic diseases with a focus on prevention and quality of life.

About Me:

I am a nurse practitioner student at UCSF and am here completing my clinical training at the SFVA. I am passionate about preventative care and creating health care plans as a team with my patients. In my spare time, I enjoy hiking, camping, and recently learned to scuba dive.

Why the VA:

I am excited to be part of the SFVA team. The VA is an excellent model for providing high quality patient centered primary care and hope to be able to continue the tradition while working with Veterans and their families.



Alexander Wells, MD

Education

Stanford University- BS Engineering,
MS Biomedical Informatics
Vanderbilt University School of
Medicine - MD

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Wells

Pronoun:

he/him/his

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

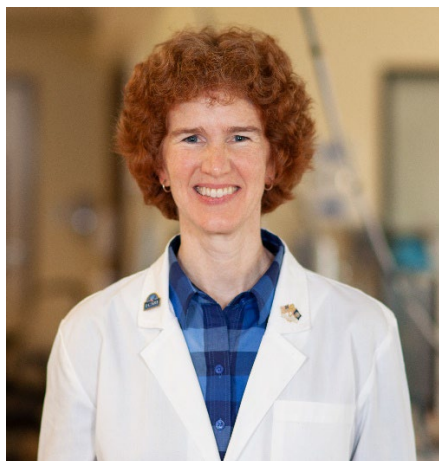
About Me:

I grew up in Piedmont, California and completed medical school at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. I am very excited to be returning to the Bay Area to complete my Internal Medicine residency at UCSF! I became a doctor because I am passionate about helping people by providing equitable, high-quality, patient-centered care. My research interests include the use of computational methods for clinical decision support and genomic discovery. In my free time I love to spend time outdoors playing tennis and ultimate frisbee.

Why the VA:

I admire VA healthcare team's dedication to clinical teaching and compassionate patient care. I look forward to learning from both the patients and providers at the SFVA as I continue to improve as a doctor and as a person.





Mary A. Whooley, MD

Education

Yale University - BA in Psychology
Boston University School of Medicine -MD
University of California, San Francisco -
Residency in Internal Medicine
University of California, San Francisco -
Fellowship in Health Services Research

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Whooley

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Internal Medicine

Role: Primary Care Physician

About Me:

I grew up in San Francisco and have worked as a primary care physician at the San Francisco VA since 1994. I am also a Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology & Biostatistics at the University of California, San Francisco, where I direct the UCSF Clinical Research Informatics Postdoctoral (CRIPS) fellowship (<https://crisp.ucsf.edu>) and the Center for Healthcare Improvement and Medical Effectiveness (<https://chime.ucsf.edu>). You can reach about my academic activities at <https://profiles.ucsf.edu/mary.whooley>.

Why the VA:

The VA is the largest integrated healthcare system in the United States I enjoy working where healthcare is based on research. It is a privilege to care for the many U.S. Veterans who have given Americans the freedom to lead productive and fulfilling lives.





Katalina Vázquez, NP

Education

University of California San Francisco- MS
2022

University of Southern California- BS 2017

Preferred way to be addressed:

Kat

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English
Spanish

Specialty:

Adult Gerontology Primary Care

About Me:

I was born and raised in San Diego, California. I was the first in my immediate family to go to college, moved to Los Angeles for 4 years, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion & Disease Prevention and a Minor in Spanish (Go Trojans!). I also identify as a first-generation Mexican American woman and take great pride in my culture. I have worked as a triage nurse in urgent care for almost two years at a community clinic in Oakland. In my spare time, I enjoy weightlifting, board games, hiking, going to baseball games, playing tennis, and discovering new food spots. I'm excited to continue exploring San Francisco and the greater Bay Area for at least another year.

Why the VA:

I have spent my last several years focused on working with underserved communities and have felt very fulfilled with this work but have no prior or familial connection to the military. Veterans have sacrificed so much in order to serve our country in a way that many of us civilians could never fathom, and as a new trainee, I feel privileged to be able to continue my learning by giving back in any way that I can to our Bay Area Veterans. I hope to provide healthcare that is both high caliber and centered around my patient's goals.





Kimberly Yan, MD

Education

University of California, Berkeley - B.S.
University of California, Los Angeles
School of Medicine - M.D.

Preferred way to be addressed:

Dr. Yan

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

General Internal Medicine, which means I specialize in preventive care, as well as diagnosing and treating illnesses in adults.

About Me:

I grew up in San Francisco and moved to Los Angeles to attend medical school at UCLA. I am very excited to be coming back home to the Bay Area to complete my medical training! I am passionate about clinical research to help give my patients and their families concrete information as they weigh the risks and benefits of undergoing procedures.

Why the VA:

Working at the West Los Angeles VA is what inspired me to choose internal medicine as a specialty. Some of my most memorable moments in my medical training were bedside conversations with Veterans where I learned not only about their medical problems but their lives and experiences. It is an honor to work at the VA and I look forward to giving back to our Veterans.



Lauren Yannucci, NP

Education

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly) - BS
University of California, San Francisco- MS
Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

Preferred way to be addressed:

Lauren or NP Yannucci

Pronoun:

she/her/hers

Languages:

English

Specialty:

Adult-Geriatric Primary Care, which means I am a specialist in preventive care, chronic disease management and diagnosing and treating illnesses in adult and geriatric (older) patients

Role:

Staff primary care provider, Supervisor of nurse practitioners in training

About Me:

I was born in San Francisco and grew up in the Bay Area during my childhood. I left the area briefly for my undergraduate training in the California Central Coast but was eager to return. I did my Nurse Practitioner school and training at UCSF. I enjoy being a primary care provider because I can build relationship with people over time. In my free time I enjoy cooking, exploring new places, and being a fan of my Bay Area sports teams.

Why the VA:

I love my job at the VA because I believe in its mission to serve veterans. I also feel fortunate to work with a team of dedicated providers that provides high quality care for veterans. As a graduate of the NP residency at the SFVA, I appreciate the emphasis the VA places on educating future healthcare professionals.

