



Topic:

**Common Causes and Contemporary Management of
Neck and Low Back Pain**

Guests:

Hripsime Avagyan, DO
Christopher K. Kaypekian, MD

In 2007, **Dr. Hripsime Avagyan** received her undergraduate degree from UCLA in Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics. Continuing her contributions to science at UCLA, Dr. Avagyan worked as a research associate and produced several publications on Alzheimer's Disease and Epilepsy. Then, in 2009, she attended Medical School at Touro University, Nevada, where she graduated the top 10% of her class with high honors. After receiving her Medical Degree, Dr. Avagyan completed a 4-year residency in Anesthesiology at the University of Texas, during which she also presented at several conferences including ASRA/ Pain (American Society of Regional Anesthesiologists and Pain Medicine) and ASA (American Society of Anesthesiology). During the culmination of her training in Anesthesiology, Dr. Avagyan decided to pursue Pain Medicine to broaden her skillset and better serve her patients and consequently, completed a Fellowship in Pain Medicine at Loma Linda University Medical Center. Now, she is able to serve her community by practicing Interventional Pain Medicine at Tri-Valley Spine and Pain Center along Dr. Christopher Kaypekian.

Dr. Christopher K. Kaypekian received his undergraduate degree from UCLA in Biology. Subsequently, he continued his education and attended AUC School of Medicine in the Netherlands Antilles. Dr. Kaypekian completed his fellowship in Interventional Pain Medicine at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics under the mentorship of recognized figures who are

pioneers in the field of Pain Medicine, before returning back home to serve his community. Dr. Kaypekian has been part of research in the fields of Internal Medicine, Anesthesiology, and Pain Medicine. He has presented research papers in multiple scientific meetings, and has earned Academic Excellence Award. Dr. Kaypekian holds the position of Clinical Assistant Professor in Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine at Western University School of Medicine. In 2007, Dr. Kaypekian established his medical practice, Glendale Pain Medicine Associates, and later founded Tri-Valley Spine and Pain Centers, with its main office and surgical center being in Glendale. The practice's mission has been to treat those in our community suffering from various acute and chronic pain conditions, focusing on spine related pathology, with state-of-the-art minimally invasive forms of treatment. Today, at the request of our patients and physicians, Dr. Kaypekian has also established two additional offices in Reseda and Hollywood.

"Your Health" host **Dr. Vicken Sepilian** is board-certified in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, as well as Obstetrics and Gynecology. He completed his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Drexel University College of Medicine and his fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at the University of Texas. While at the University of Texas, Dr. Sepilian received a Master of Science degree in Reproductive Medicine studying the impact of nutrition on reproductive health. Dr. Sepilian is the founder and medical director of American Fertility Specialists Medical Group and practices in Los Angeles and Glendale. Dr. Sepilian is a current board member and former President of the Armenian American Medical Society (AAMS). In 2008, he launched the AAMS "Your Health" Community Education Program that continues to air live on TV making house calls to countless Armenian households. In 2010, Dr. Sepilian was instrumental in launching the inaugural Glendale Health Festival and served as the Chairman of the organizing committee for the first two years. In 2012, Dr. Sepilian presided over a collaborative effort with colleagues in Canada of the ACMAO to train, staff and equip the Women's Health Clinic in Stepanakert, Artsakh. This collaborative effort by the AAMS, ACMAO, and the Ministry of Health of Karabagh continues to operate and provide preventative and essential health care to women free of charge. In 2013, as president of the AAMS, Dr. Sepilian Chaired the 11th Armenian Medical World Congress, a quadrennial international multispecialty conference that was very well attended and was one of the most successful ones to date. Dr. Sepilian also serves on AAMS' Continuing Medical Education Committee, focusing his efforts on enhancing the experience for members.

Featuring physicians and health care professionals whose areas of practice cover the entire spectrum of allied health care, "Your Health" is a dynamic resource for viewers interested in improving their health. The program emphasizes the importance of preventative care, and focuses on how people can maintain a healthful lifestyle. The program provides an opportunity for the Armenian community to address their concerns with the counsel of bi-lingual health care professionals. The program also provides viewers with information about the AAMS and our activities in California and Armenia. The AAMS encourages individuals to contact local

social workers to learn whether they are eligible for health insurance. AAMS doctors and nurses encourage their patients to get the insurance they deserve, and to see a physician regularly for the care that they need.