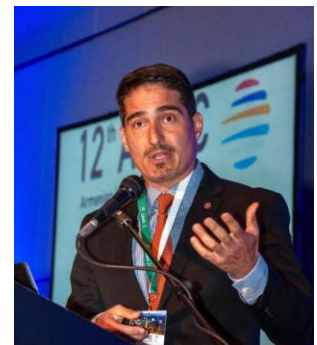




Topic:
Colon and Rectal Cancer
Guest:
Avo Artinyan, MD

Dr. Avo Artinyan earned his MD from UC San Diego and completed his general surgery training and colorectal research fellowship at USC. He then completed clinical and research surgical oncology fellowships at City of Hope Cancer Center. Dr. Artinyan joined Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX in 2009. At the Houston VA, he established one of the busiest robotic surgical oncology and colorectal surgery programs in the country. He was later promoted to Chief of Colon and Rectal Surgery and Associate Director of Surgical Oncology, and was recognized with the Fulbright and Jaworski Faculty Excellence Award, the Baylor STAR Award for excellence in clinical practice, and the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award by graduating chief residents. Dr. Artinyan was recruited back to LA this year by Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong as director of surgical oncology for the Verity Medical Foundation, with the goal of developing a world-class comprehensive cancer center in Los Angeles. Dr. Artinyan's expertise is in minimally invasive gastrointestinal surgical oncology, particularly laparoscopic, robotic, and transanal colon and rectal cancer surgery. He is an expert in sphincter-preserving resection techniques for rectal cancer and was among the early developers of transanal minimally invasive surgery. Dr. Artinyan is also an expert in the treatment of gastric, pancreatic, soft tissue and breast cancers, inflammatory bowel disease, diverticulitis, and abdominal wall hernias. He has authored over 50 peer-reviewed publications, several book chapters and has been an invited guest lecturer both nationally and internationally. Dr. Artinyan is the current president of the Armenian Association of Hematology and Oncology which is partnering with the American Society of Clinical Oncology for an international cancer conference in Armenia this November.

"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.