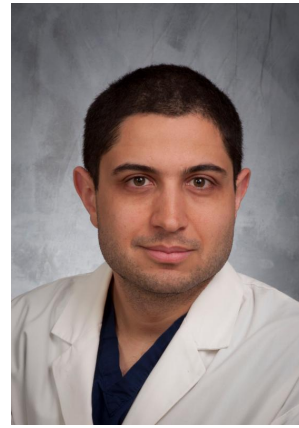


Topic:
**Cancers in Children and State of Pediatric
Oncology in Armenia**

Guest:
Shant Shekherdimian, MD, MPH



Shant Shekherdimian, MD, MPH, a native of Los Angeles, is a board-certified pediatric surgeon. Dr. Shekherdimian is also active in helping to shape public policy as a means to improve healthcare delivery around the world. He received his medical degree from Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in addition to a Masters in Public Health with an emphasis on global health from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Dr. Shekherdimian completed a residency in general surgery at UCLA and a fellowship in pediatric surgery at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Surgery at UCLA. Dr. Shekherdimian's clinical expertise includes neonatal surgery and pediatric surgical oncology. He has participated in several international conferences pertaining to both his surgical specialty and public health policy. He is deeply committed to improving healthcare in Armenia and has spearheaded an initiative to improve the quality of inpatient pediatric care in Armenian hospitals, as well as developing new methods to effectively utilize diaspora resources to ultimately improve the quality of care delivered to patients. Dr. Shekherdimian is the recipient of a Fulbright scholarship, which enabled him to teach at the Yerevan State Medical University, as well as conduct research on the feasibility of cancer screening in Armenia. Dr. Shekherdimian has mentored medical students and residents who have conducted various healthcare-related research projects in Armenia, ranging from cardiovascular risk factor modification to quality improvement in hospitals (published in JAMA Surgery) to a comprehensive health survey in Artsakh (published in BMJ). In addition, he serves as an advisor for the Ministry of Health and is on the Advisory board of the City of Smile Foundation.



Vicken Sepilian, MD, FACOG

"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 the 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 currently serves on the 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.