



Pediatric COVID Update

Interview with Evelyn Baghdasraian Barkhoudarian, MD, FAAP

Chief of Service, Department of Pediatrics

Co-Lead for Physician Wellness

Women in Medicine Lead

National BRG Co-Lead, Kaiser Permanente Armenian Connection (KPAC)

Dr. Evelyn Baghdasraian is currently the Chief of Service for the Woodland Hills Western Ventura Service Area of Kaiser Permanente, Southern California Permanente Medical Group. She is also a Physician Wellness Champion for the WH/WV service area, and serves as the Regional Lead for Pediatric Physician Education for Southern California. She is also the current National President of KPAC, The Kaiser Permanente Armenian Connection. Born and raised in Southern California, Evelyn Baghdasraian-Barkhoudarian received her education at both local Armenian schools and the Glendale Unified School District. She received a Bachelor of Sciences in Biology along with a degree in Health Policy and Management, emphasis multi-cultural health, at the University of Southern California in 2001. She received her Medical Degree in 2005 at the Loma Linda University School of Medicine, where she had many opportunities to practice medicine overseas, from Honduras to Armenia. A desire to be close to family, friends, and community brought her back to Childrens Hospital Los Angeles for a pediatric residency, which she completed in 2008. She practiced at Kaiser Permanente upon graduation through 2011, and had the opportunity to work as a pediatrician in the Emergency Department of Boston Childrens Hospital (formerly Childrens Hospital Boston) the subsequent year. She resumed practice in Pediatrics with the Kaiser Permanente Medical Group in 2012. In her commitments to the Armenian Community, Evelyn has always been an active participant in AAMS functions, beginning with volunteering at the First Annual Health Fair. She served as Chair for the Walk for Life benefiting ABMDR from 2006-2008. She helped host a number of telethons for the Armenian community, benefiting ABMDR as well as the Davidian-Mariamian Educational Foundation. In addition to being a previous Board Member for AAMS and current Board member of ABMDR, she has lead various initiatives in physician education, family violence prevention, breastfeeding education, and pediatric obesity prevention. She was honored with many service awards from the community she serves and professional awards in her practice, notably the prestigious Physician Exceptional Contribution Award (PECA) for SCPMG WH/WV in 2017. In addition to juggling a busy professional life in administration and

clinic, she enjoys spending time with her two young children and husband. Her interests include traveling, learning different languages, and music. Dr. Baghdasraian strives to continue serving her patients and the community at large whenever possible.

Dr. Vicken Sepilian is a Reproductive Medicine specialist and is the founder and director of American Fertility Specialists Medical Group. He is double board-certified in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, as well as Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Sepilian has been an active member of the Armenian American Medical Society (AAMS) holding multiple leadership positions, including serving as the President from 2009 to 2013. Dr. Sepilian served as the Chairman of the 11th Armenian Medical World Congress and currently is the President of the Armenian Medical International Congress (AMIC), a nonprofit organization with chapters all over the world, with the aim of coordinating global efforts in improving healthcare in Armenia. Passionate about community education, in 2008, Dr. Sepilian launched the "Your Health" educational TV program aimed at sharing with the community the latest and most important healthcare topics. Since 2008, the show has been making house calls to tens of thousands of viewers helping educate them on preventative care and healthy lifestyles. In 2010, Dr. Sepilian, alongside other civic leaders and the former Mayor of the City of Glendale co-founded the Glendale Health Festival. Dr. Sepilian worked closely with city and state officials and local hospitals to organize this large-scale event with the aim to improve the health of the community. Dr. Sepilian is a strong believer that success and wealth are measured by life's experiences and human interactions and that true happiness and purpose are achieved by giving. Cherished memories include debates about life and death with Dr. Jack Kevorkian, delivering pens to students in villages in Sri Lanka and teaching chess to orphans in Nepal.