



## Updates in the Management of Lung Cancer

### Interview with Ani Balmanoukian, MD Director of Thoracic Oncology at The Los Angeles Clinic and Research Institute, a Cedars-Sinai Affiliate

**Dr. Ani Balmanoukian** is a board-certified Medical Oncologist and Hematologist. She is the Director of Thoracic Oncology at The Angeles Clinic and Research Institute, a Cedars-Sinai Affiliate. Dr. Balmanoukian obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art History and a Bachelor of Science degree in Physiological Science from UCLA. She received her medical degree from New York Medical College after which she completed an Internal Medicine residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital followed by a fellowship in Hematology/Medical Oncology at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Dr. Balmanoukian has served as a primary investigator on numerous clinical trials including various early phase, immunotherapy clinical studies. These trials have included work with anti PD-1, PD-L1, and CTLA-4 antibodies which have led to the FDA approval of these agents in various malignancies. Dr. Balmanoukian has had various publications including in *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Lancet Oncology*, *Clinical Cancer Research*, and *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

**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.