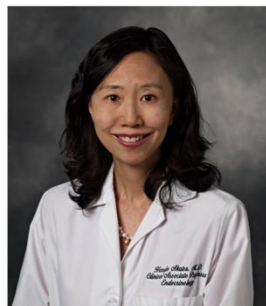




## Brief Biographies of Some of the Speakers

### 14th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Conference October 14 – 16, 2011 Los Angeles, California

Sponsored by ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc.  
Conference details at  
[www.thyca.org](http://www.thyca.org)



**Haruko Akatsu, M.D.**, Endocrinologist, is the Medical Director of the Thyroid Cancer Program at Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California, as well as Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Endocrinology, Gerontology, and Metabolism. She received her medical degree from Stanford Medical School, where she also did her residency and fellowship. Dr. Akatsu has twice been named one of the “The Best Doctors in America.” She has spoken at previous ThyCa events.

**Eren Berber, M.D.**, Endocrine Surgeon, is Co-Director of the Laparoscopic Radiofrequency Ablation Program at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio, where he pioneered the Laparoscopic Liver Resection Program. Dr. Berber is board certified in surgery and has published extensively on endocrine and laparoscopic surgery. After medical school and surgery residency in Istanbul, Dr. Berber completed a fellowship in laparoscopic surgery at the University of California, San Francisco, and the Cleveland Clinic. After a second general surgery residency at the Cleveland Clinic, he joined the staff there in 2005.

**Parag Bharadwaj, M.D., FAAHPM**, is the Medical Director of the Palliative Care Program at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California.

**Michael Bouvet, M.D.**, Endocrine Surgeon and researcher at Moores Cancer Center at University of California, San Diego, is Director of Endocrine Surgery, Director of Surgical Services, and Co-Director of the Specialized Gastrointestinal Cancer Care Unit. He specializes in surgical oncology, including surgery for thyroid nodules and thyroid cancer, minimally invasive parathyroidectomy, and laparoscopic adrenal surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and has been selected as one of America's Top Surgeons by Consumers' Research Council of America and as one of San Diego's Top Doctors. Dr. Bouvet earned a B.S. in microbiology and his medical degree at the University of Washington, with residency at the University of California at San Diego and advanced fellowship training in surgical oncology at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.





**Gregory Brent, M.D.**, Endocrinologist, is Professor of Medicine and Physiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at University of California, Los Angeles, and Chief of the Endocrinology and Diabetes Section of VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. and Director of its Fellowship Program in Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Diabetes. He is also President of the American Thyroid Association. Dr. Brent attended medical school at the University of Southern California, with residency at Wadsworth VA Medical Center, UCLA, and fellowships at Harvard. He spent seven years on the Harvard faculty. In 1995, he returned to the UCLA School of Medicine, and West Los Angeles VA Medical Center. He is a past chair of the National Institutes of Health, Molecular and Cellular Endocrinology Study Section. His research interests include molecular mechanisms of thyroid hormone and retinoic acid action, regulation of gene expression by thyroid hormone, iodine transport in hormone-dependent cancers, and thyroid disease in pregnancy.

**Marcia Brose, M.D., Ph.D.**, is a Medical Oncologist and Assistant Professor at the Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where she also directs the Cancer Genetics Laboratory and is involved in clinical trials of new treatments for patients with advanced thyroid cancer. Her clinical focus is familial cancer syndromes and cancer risk evaluation, Phase I/II clinical trials, and novel drug target discovery. Her research focuses on genomic characterization of cancers of the head and neck, thyroid, and lung; novel drug target discovery; and the use of genetic testing in the diagnosis, prognostication, and treatment of cancer. Dr. Brose received her bachelor's degree from Amherst College, her medical degree from Cornell University Medical College, and her Ph.D. from The Rockefeller University.



**Naifa Busaidy, M.D.**, is an Endocrinologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. She is a graduate of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. She completed postgraduate training at The Royal Hospital and the Sultan Qaboos University Hospital, Oman; Baylor College of Medicine, Houston; and University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. She is the author of numerous research articles and book chapters.

**Maria E. Cabanillas, M.D.**, Endocrinologist, is Assistant Professor in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas. Dr. Cabanillas's clinical focus is metastatic thyroid cancer, and her research interests include targeted therapy for metastatic thyroid cancer, as well as supportive care in cancer. She is a graduate of The University of Puerto Rico Medical School. She completed a Residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, Texas, and a Fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas. She has authored many peer-reviewed journal articles.



**Mark S. Chambers, D.M.D., M.S.,** is a professor in the Department of Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, and also serves in the Department of Radiation Oncology at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. A graduate of the University of Louisville School of Dentistry, he also has a degree in Biological Sciences from the University of Louisville Medical School, and in Chemical Engineering and Biology from Brescia College. He has longstanding positions as Chief of Oncologic Dentistry, Director of the Clinical Research Program, and Director of Rotating Residents in the Surgery Division of the Department of Head and Neck Surgery, as well as Fellowship Coordinator of the Advanced Education Program in Maxillofacial Prosthetics and Oncologic Dentistry. His extensive work with the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics since 1994 has led to the advancement of the field as well as the development of the Head and Neck Surgery Department at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. He is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.

**Peter Crane, Esq.,** 33-year thyroid cancer survivor, retired in 1999 from a 24-year career as an attorney at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. He has spoken and written extensively to medical and regulatory groups on radiation, thyroid cancer, and the importance of stockpiling potassium iodide (KI) for radiation emergencies. In articles available on the Internet, he has shared his own experience with childhood neck irradiation and his thyroid cancer, first diagnosed when he was 26 years old. The thyroid cancer recurred when he was 42 years old and required treatment with five courses of radioactive iodine before he received a clean bill of health four years later.

**Daniel S. Duick, M.D.,** Endocrinologist, is President and a staff physician with Endocrinology Associates, PA, in Phoenix, Scottsdale, and Chandler, Arizona. He also is Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine, teaching at the Phoenix and Tucson campuses. He graduated from Northwestern University School of Medicine and completed his residency and fellowship training at USC–Los Angeles County Hospital and Walter Reed Army Medical Center before two years of active duty in the Army. He joined the staff of the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, before moving to Phoenix where he served as the Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Training Program for 12 years at St Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center. Dr. Duick is currently serving a two-year term as President of the American College of Endocrinology. He was President of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists from 2008-2009.



**Douglas B. Evans, M.D.,** Surgeon, is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. He received his medical training at Boston University School of Medicine, did a fellowship in surgical oncology at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, and completed his internship and residency in surgery at Dartmouth Hitchcock Affiliated Hospitals in Hanover, NH. He has been voted one of the Best Doctors in America in surgical oncology.

**Tracey Fehr, Esq., J.D.,** Attorney, is with Alexander Krakow & Glick, Santa Monica, California. She earned her Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law in 2005 and graduated with highest honors from Binghamton University in 2002 with a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in History. She specializes in handling employment-related cases in the healthcare, entertainment, retail and financial industries, with clients from factory workers to senior executives.



**Sherrie Flores, R.N.C., W.H.C.N.P.-B.C.**, is Nurse Practitioner for Dr. Naifa Busaidy and the Thyroid Cancer Survivorship Clinic in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormone Disorders at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.



**Andrew G. Gianoukakis, M.D.**, Endocrinologist, is on the faculty of University of California, Los Angeles, School of Medicine and the staff of Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles, California.



**Melanie Goldfarb, M.D.**, Surgeon, is Assistant Professor at the University of Southern California Norris Cancer Hospital, where she specializes in Surgical Oncology. Her subspecialties and clinical interests are minimally invasive thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal surgery; Pediatric Endocrine Surgery, non-pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors, and ultrasound. She received her education at University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago and Brown University, with residency at Beth Israel Deaconess/Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts, and Clinical Fellowship in endocrine surgery at Jackson Memorial Hospital University of Miami Health System. She recently co-edited *The Pocket Surgery Notebook*, due to be published later this year.

**Jessica E. Gosnell, M.D.**, Surgeon, is Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of California at San Francisco. She earned her medical degree at the University of Washington in Seattle and completed a residency in general surgery at UCSF, where she received the Hunicutt Resident Award for Excellence in Teaching for two years. She also received a Gastrointestinal Research Training Grant from the National Institutes of Health as a research fellow at San Francisco General Hospital and completed a fellowship in endocrine surgery at the University of Sydney in Australia.



**Richard B. Guttler, M.D., F.A.C.E., F.A.C.P.**, Endocrinologist, Santa Monica Thyroid Center and Endocrine Neck Ultrasound Center of Southern California, received his medical training at the University of Illinois. He is a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles and St. Johns Hospital in Santa Monica, California. Dr. Guttler is also a certified endocrine neck interventional sonographer and trained thyroid cytopathologist.





**Jerome Hershman, M.D.**, is Director of the Endocrinology Clinic of the Veterans Administration Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, in Los Angeles. He also is a Professor in Residence in the Department of Medicine, Endocrinology, Diabetes and Hypertension at the University of California at Los Angeles. Dr. Hershman graduated from the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago, with residencies at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and the VA Medical Center in Boston.

**Mark O. Hiepler, Esq.**, Attorney, is a partner in Hiepler & Hiepler of Oxnard, California. He was recently named one of the 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America by the National Law Journal and one of the 20 Most Influential Attorneys under age 40 in California by California Law Business. He has been appointed by the California Legislature as a Member of the Governor's Health Care Service Plans Task Force. He regularly serves as a keynote speaker at physician, patient and insurance conventions throughout the United States and abroad.

**Julie Hunsaker** has been associated with the Hypoparathyroidism Association for many years and is participating in the hypoparathyroidism session at this year's conference.



**Nick Isenberg**, Documentary Film Producer, has been a news reporter/photographer for 34 years, with credits in television, radio, and print media. He is a thyroid cancer survivor. He developed his documentary, "Thyroid Cancer's Magic Bullet," in cooperation with specialist physicians and other professionals and numerous thyroid cancer survivors. The 62-minute film is designed to help patients and caregivers see, hear, and understand what to expect before, during, and after receiving radioactive iodine, and includes experts' answers to dozens of questions. The documentary had its premiere showing at the 2010 conference. Nick has also initiated the ThyCa Western Slopes Support Group in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. His experience in photography and writing includes travel to Mount Everest.



**Joshua P. Klopper, M.D.**, Endocrinologist, is Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Colorado at Denver Health Sciences Center in Denver, Colorado, having joined the faculty of the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes in July 2006. Dr. Klopper has written numerous journal articles and has a particular research interest in the treatment of poorly differentiated thyroid cancer. Born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, Dr. Klopper earned a bachelor's of science degree in psychology from Indiana University in 1995. He received his medical degree from the Emory University School of Medicine in 1999 and completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in 2002.

**Zoe Koufopoulos, M.A.**, is a Jin Shin Jyutsu Practitioner, Los Angeles, California, and teaches self-help classes and other classes, as well as a study group. Jin Shin Jyutsu is described as the art of releasing tensions related to various body symptoms.



**Paul R. Krakovitz, M.D.**, is an Otolaryngologist in the Head and Neck Institute and the Division of Pediatrics at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Cleveland, Ohio. A graduate of Indiana University School of Medicine, he completed further training in surgery and pediatric otolaryngology at the University of Vermont, Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, and Cleveland Clinic Foundation. He is an invited reviewer for three peer-reviewed medical journals. His clinical work focuses on pediatric otolaryngology, and his research interests include minimally invasive thyroid and parathyroid surgery in children, multiple endocrine neoplasia (MEN), and the incidence of pediatric thyroid cancer. He is author of numerous peer-reviewed medical journal articles, book chapters, and abstracts, and is a frequent presenter at professional and ThyCa meetings.

**Susan Larson, M.D., M.P.H.**, is a Staff physician with the Permanente Medical Group in Pleasanton, California. Previously she worked in Clinical Occupational Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. She is a graduate of Northwestern University Medical School and received a Master's Degree in Public Health from Columbia University. She has led sessions on physician-patient relationships at previous ThyCa conferences.

**Cheri Lindle, M.Ed.**, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, is a Trainer and Educator with C3 Consulting. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Oklahoma State University, and a Master's Degree in Experiential Education from Minnesota State University at Mankato. She has worked in the field of experiential training and development for 25 years. She has held positions such as challenge course facilitator with high risk youth, challenge course director at an acute care adolescent psychiatric hospital, HR Director, Senior Management Trainer, and Corporate Consultant. Cheri has taught Sociology/Psychology at Tulsa Community College, as an adjunct since 1999, and has served as Senior Consultant/Trainer with an International Training and Development Company, Learning Unlimited Corporation. Cheri founded the Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer E-Mail Support Group and has previously served on the Board of Directors for ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association.

**James G. Luehman** is the Deputy Director, Division of Materials Safety and State Agreements at the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in Washington, D.C.

**Dennis R. Maceri, M.D.**, is a Pediatric Otolaryngologist at the University of Southern California Ambulatory Care Health Center, Los Angeles, CA. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of California at Los Angeles. Medical school at University of California at Irvine, was followed by residency at UCLA in Head and Neck Surgery. He then joined the faculty at the University of Michigan. He moved to the University of Southern California, where he was Division Head at Children's Hospital Los Angeles from 1985 to 1993. His research interest is in thyroid cancer, specifically, genetic changes responsible for tumor spread.



**Erik Mitra, M.D.**, is a Clinical Instructor in Radiology & Nuclear Medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine in Palo Alto, California, and practices at Stanford Hospital and Clinics and the Lucille Packard Children's Hospital. He received his medical training at SUNY-Stony Brook, New York, and did his residency at Stanford Hospital and Clinics, where he was named Chief Nuclear Medicine Resident. He is board certified in nuclear medicine.



**Joanna L. Morales, J.D., Attorney**, is Director of the Cancer Legal Resource Center, a joint program of the Disability Rights Legal Center and Loyola Law School Los Angeles. She is also an Adjunct Professor of Law at Loyola Law School, where she teaches a seminar in Cancer Rights Law. Before joining the DRLC staff as a Loyola Law School Post-Graduate Public Interest Law Fellow in 2002, she spent eight years working at the John Wayne Cancer Institute for its Psychosocial Care Program and Positive Appearance Center. She started working at the CLRC as a law student extern in January 2000. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of California at Los Angeles and her J.D. degree from Loyola Law School.



**David Myssiorek, M.D., F.A.C.S.**, Otolaryngologist, is Professor of Otolaryngology at the New York University Clinical Cancer Center in New York City, New York. He is also Secretary of the New York Head and Neck Society. Previously he was on the staff of Long Island Jewish Hospital. A graduate of New York University School of Medicine, Dr. Myssiorek did his internship at Lenox Hill Hospital and was Chief Resident at New York University/Bellevue. He is the author of numerous articles on thyroid cancer surgery and other head and neck surgery. At ThyCa conferences Dr. Myssiorek has spoken about general surgical issues and issues related to having additional neck surgeries, as well as on the causes, prevention, and solutions for voice issues. His survey on voice issues, conducted in cooperation with ThyCa, received more than 6,000 responses. Dr. Myssiorek is a member of ThyCa's Medical Advisory Council.

**Jennifer Rosen, M.D.**, Surgeon, is Assistant Professor at Boston University School of Medicine. Her research laboratory focuses on thyroid nodules, and the prediction of benign versus malignant disease based on gene expression with an interest in identifying the roles, if any, these genes have on thyroid carcinogenesis. Her research also focuses on patient factors that contribute to disease recurrence, and on patient's adherence to therapy with the goal of improving survival in patients with cancer. In 2010 she reported on her study of the use of complementary and alternative approaches by thyroid cancer patients, in a survey posted on ThyCa's web site. Dr. Rosen graduated from Jefferson Medical College, followed by residency at Beth Israel Medical Center, and then a Surgical Oncology Fellowship in the Surgery Branch at the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland.



**Carole Ross** is a Jin Shin Jyutsu Practitioner in Orange County, California.

**Carol Sanders**, Idaho Falls, Idaho, is a volunteer and board member of the Hypoparathyroidism Association, a nonprofit organization providing support and education for people affected by hypoparathyroidism. The Links section of ThyCa's web site has a link to the web site of the Hypoparathyroidism Association. The Hypoparathyroidism Association, Inc. is a voluntary, non-profit organization that provides education and support for people with all forms of Hypoparathyroidism, which can result from the removal of or damage to the parathyroid glands during thyroid surgery, as well as from other causes. ThyCa and the Hypoparathyroidism Association are working collaboratively together to try to reduce the incidence of post-surgical hypoparathyroidism.

**Charles Saxe, Ph.D.**, is Scientific Program Director in the Extramural Grants Department at the American Cancer Society's national home office in Atlanta, GA. He joined the ACS in fall 2007 and has scientific responsibility for the Program in Cancer Cell Biology and Metastasis. He has served on several Cell Biology peer review committees for the National Institutes of Health and as an ad hoc reviewer for the National Science Foundation and the British Research Council. Just prior to joining the ACS he was a member of the American Cancer Society's Peer Review Committee for Cell Structure and Metastasis. He received his Ph.D. in Genetics from the University of Arizona in 1980 and did postdoctoral training at the University of Pittsburgh and University of California at San Diego, followed by a position as a Senior Staff Fellow at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. He joined the faculty of Emory University in Atlanta in and became an Associate Professor of Cell Biology and a Member of the Signal Transduction unit of the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory.

**Anne L. Schafer, M.D.**, Endocrinologist, is on the Faculty of the School of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, as well as Staff Physician at the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center. A graduate of Harvard University, she earned her medical degree at the School of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, with residency and fellowships at UCSF and San Francisco VA Medical Center. Her interests include bone turnover markers and parathyroid hormone. She is a reviewer for two medical journals, an author of peer-reviewed journals, and received a teaching award from UCSF School of Medicine.

**Eric J. Sherman, M.D.**, Oncologist, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York City, New York, received his medical training at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, and did his residencies at New York University/Bellevue Medical Center. After a fellowship at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, he joined the Head and Neck Oncology Service there, where he specializes in thyroid cancer and head and neck cancers. He is board certified in internal medicine and medical oncology.

**Steven I. Sherman, M.D.**, Endocrinologist, is Chair of the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at the University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, where he is also a Professor. He is also Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine. A Magna Cum Laude graduate of Harvard College, he received his M.D. from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, followed by internship, residency, and fellowship at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland, and 3 years as a Clinical Associate Physician, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. His research interests include novel therapies for thyroid carcinoma and recombinant human TSH. He is coauthor of the American Thyroid Association Guidelines on Differentiated Thyroid Cancer and a Board Member of the American Thyroid Association. He is also a member of ThyCa's Medical Advisory Council.

**Peter A. Singer, M.D.**, Endocrinologist, graduated from the Medical School of the University of California at San Francisco, and did his internship at Los Angeles County General Hospital (now LAC-USC Medical Center). He then served two years in the military, including a tour of duty in Vietnam. Dr. Singer then returned to LAC-USC for a medical residency and an NIH-funded endocrine fellowship. He was for many years a faculty member of the USC Division of Endocrinology at USC. In 1991, Dr. Singer moved his practice to USC and, since then has been Professor and Chief of Clinical Endocrinology at the Keck School of Medicine, USC. In addition to a full-time clinical practice in endocrinology, he also teaches medical students, residents and endocrine fellows. In 2004, Dr. Singer was named the Outstanding Clinical Endocrinologist by the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists. He is a Past President, of the American Thyroid Association, and is a member of ThyCa's Medical Advisory Council.





**Jennifer A. Sipos, M.D.**, Endocrinologist, is a thyroid cancer clinician at The Ohio State University College of Medicine in Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Sipos has authored numerous journal



articles and serves as a member of the National Cancer Institute's Physician Data Query Cancer Genetics Editorial Board. Following her graduation from medical school, Dr. Sipos completed a residency at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center and a fellowship at the University of North Carolina Hospitals. She formerly served as a member of the staff at the University of Florida, where she worked closely with ThyCa Medical Advisor and Endocrinologist, Ernest L. Mazzaferri, M.D.

**Julie Siskowic, R.N.**, is a nurse who works in day surgery at Torrance Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles, California.

**Nancy Siskowic, R.N., N.P.**, is a mental health and women's health nurse practitioner in Los Angeles, California. She is also a menopause clinician and spiritual director. She speaks locally and nationally on coping skills and mind / body health, as well as on menopause issues.

**Stephanie Smooke-Praw, M.D.**, is an Endocrinologist at the University of California at Los Angeles School of Medicine in Los Angeles, California.

**Julie Ann Sosa, M.D., M.A.**, is an Endocrine and Oncologic Surgeon and Associate Professor



of Surgery at Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut. She is principal investigator or co-principal investigator of studies of new drug treatments for differentiated thyroid cancer (papillary/follicular), medullary thyroid cancer, and anaplastic thyroid cancer. Following undergraduate education at Princeton University, she received a master's degree in Human Sciences at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom and her medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland. She received postgraduate training at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, as well as John Radcliffe and Churchill Hospitals, Oxford, England. She is a frequent invited lecturer and course leader/instructor for professional audiences. She is a member of ThyCa's Medical Advisory Council.

**Carole A. Spencer, Ph.D., F.A.C.B.**, is Professor of Medicine in the Keck School of Medicine at USC, where she also is a licensed medical technologist, and directs the USC Endocrine Laboratories. Dr. Spencer received a B.S. in Applied Biochemistry from Bath University of Technology in England, U.K., and a Ph.D. from the Department of Medicine at Glasgow University, Scotland, U.K. In 1977, she joined the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. The author or co-author of more than 80 original papers, chapters and monographs, Dr. Spencer has focused her research on the clinical and laboratory aspects of thyroid disease and treatment. She is a ThyCa Medical Advisor, as well as a Past President of the American Thyroid Association.

**Beatriz Tendler, M.D.**, is an Endocrinologist and Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Connecticut Health Center, Farmington, Connecticut, where her special focus is endocrine tumors. A graduate of Central University, Venezuela, she did her residency at Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois, plus fellowship training at the University of Illinois College of Medicine and University of Connecticut School of Medicine. She speaks fluent English and Spanish.

**Steven G. Waguespack, M.D.**, Endocrinologist, is an associate professor of internal medicine and pediatrics at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. A native of Louisiana, Dr. Waguespack graduated Summa Cum Laude from Loyola University in New Orleans, where he also participated in the presidential scholars honor program. He graduated from the University of Texas-Houston Medical School with honors and pursued training in internal medicine/pediatrics at Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis. He completed a combined adult and pediatric endocrinology fellowship at Indiana University and is board certified in both subspecialties. Recognized as one of "America's Top Doctors for Cancer" in pediatric endocrinology, his major clinical and research interests are thyroid cancer, pituitary tumors, and metabolic bone disease. At M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Dr. Waguespack provides endocrine care to patients of all ages. He is a member of ThyCa's Medical Advisory Council.



**Lynn Waldmann, L.C.S.W.**, has been Senior Social Work Counselor at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston since 2000. She conducts clinical counseling with individuals and families to promote positive adjustment to cancer diagnosis and treatment and facilitate adherence to treatment, self-determination, and exploring choices. Previously she has served as a clinical social worker with children, adolescents, adults, and families in hospital and community-based settings. She is a graduate of Good Counsel College and Hunter College Graduate School of Social Work.

**Laura M. Weil** has been selected as the Patients' Rights Advocate on the Advisory Committee on the Medical Use of Isotopes, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. She is currently on the faculty and is a Director Emerita of Sarah Lawrence College's master's degree program in Health Advocacy. The program at Sarah Lawrence, located in Bronxville, N.Y., is the only graduate level health advocacy degree program in the country. Ms. Weil earned her Bachelors of Arts degree from SUNY Albany. She then went on to obtain her Masters of Arts degree from Sarah Lawrence College Health Advocacy Program. Her area of advocacy specialization is the rights of participants in clinical trial research. She serves on Beth Israel Medical Center's Institutional Review Board, where she is a reviewer of proposed clinical trials with respect to patients' rights. As a consultant to the National Institute of Mental Health, she reviews research applications for federal funding. She served as director of the patient representative department of a major academic medical center for nine years, and taught clinical ethics for several years. Ms. Weil served as past president of New York State Society of Patient Representatives and was a board member of the National Society for Healthcare Consumer Advocacy of the American Hospital Association. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the National Association of Healthcare Advocacy Consultants and a member of the Metropolitan New York Ethics Network.

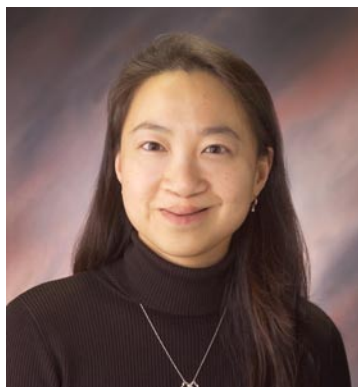


**Michelle D. Williams, M.D.**, is Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas. Her clinical interests focus on head and neck pathology. She is a graduate of the University of Florida College of Medicine in Gainesville, and completed postgraduate training in surgery, anatomic and clinical pathology, surgical pathology, and head and neck pathology at the University of Florida, where she was Chief Resident in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology, and the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. She is the author of numerous peer-reviewed research articles, as well as invited articles, abstracts, and book chapters, and an invited presenter at national and international conferences. She is an editorial board member of *The Gulf Journal of Oncology*, as well as reviewer for several medical journals, including *Cancer*, *Head and Neck Pathology*, and *American Journal of Otolaryngology*.



**Michael W. Yeh, M.D.**, Surgeon, University of California at Los Angeles, established the UCLA Endocrine Surgery Program, which has gained national and international recognition for clinical excellence in the management of complex endocrine diseases. After pursuing his studies at Stanford University and Harvard Medical School, Dr. Yeh trained in general surgery at University of California San Francisco. He then completed a fellowship in endocrine surgery at the Royal North Shore Hospital in Sydney, Australia. Dr. Yeh focuses on minimally invasive parathyroid surgery, thyroid cancer, and adrenal tumors, and has published more than 50 scholarly articles and book chapters on these topics.

**John Yim, M.D.**, is an Assistant Professor with the Division of General Oncologic Surgery of the City of Hope in Duarte, CA. Dr. Yim received a B.S. in molecular biophysics and biochemistry from Yale University, and received his medical degree from Stanford University School of Medicine. He completed his general surgery residency at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in Saint Louis, Missouri, and then completed an NIH-sponsored surgical oncology research fellowship. Dr. Yim spent six years as an Assistant Professor at the University of Pittsburgh where he developed an endocrine surgery practice and maintained an active laboratory research program.



**Linwah Yip, M.D.**, is a Surgeon at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She earned her M.D. degree at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine in Illinois, followed by residencies at University Medical Center, Jacksonville, Florida and Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois, and fellowships at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center & Tumor Institute, Houston, Texas, and University of Pittsburgh Medical School.