



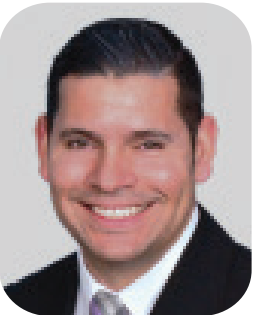
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HERITAGE VALLEY
HEALTH SYSTEM



Vikram Arora, M.D.
Program Director

Dr. Vikram Arora is Research Director and Associate Program Director of the residency program. He received his MPH degree from the Graduate School of Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Arora's clinical interests include physician patient communication, evidence based medicine and efficient utilization of information technology resources for advancement of patient care. In addition to being full time faculty, Dr. Arora is actively involved in resident research, web based curriculum, conducting interactive workshops, and resident evaluations.



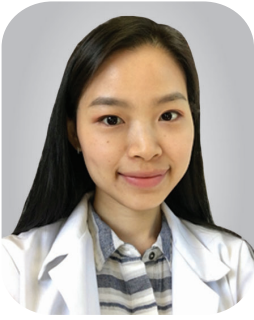
Marco Alcala, M.D.
Orthopedics Director

Dr. Alcala received his medical degree from Saint George's University School of Medicine in Grenada. He completed his general surgical internship at St. Barnabas Medical Center and his general surgical residency at Morristown Memorial Hospital both in New Jersey. Dr. Alcala underwent a three-year research fellowship in surgical oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute in Pittsburgh, PA. He completed his Family Medicine Residency at Heritage Valley Beaver in Beaver, PA. He then completed his fellowship in Primary Care Sports Medicine at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pa., where he trained as a team physician for the Pittsburgh Pirates. Dr. Alcala specializes in Family Medicine, non-surgical orthopedics, sports medicine and concussion management. He provides exceptional sports medicine care for patients aged five years and older, and comprehensive and compassionate primary medical care for patients aged 18 years and older. Dr. Alcala is team physician for the Pittsburgh Pirates Baseball Team, Avonworth High School as well as the Avonworth School District Physician.



Ann Brandt M.S., M.Ed., LPCC-S
Behavioral Science Director

Ann is a graduate of Westminster College, Arizona State University and Youngstown State University. She has been a licensed professional clinical counselor for the last 30 years working in the areas of mental health and drug and alcohol treatment. She has served as a program direct for several non-profit organizations and clinical director for inpatient and outpatient mental health and drug and alcohol facilities. She has been a counseling supervisor for the last 22 year in the state of Ohio. She has been a professional consultant for such programs as Head Start and Help Me Grow as well as a professional trainer and presenter for several local school districts throughout Ohio and Pennsylvania. She has developed a social learning program for preschool children and has created programming for adolescence addiction trainer and presenter for several local school districts throughout Ohio and Pennsylvania. She has developed a social learning program for preschool children and has created programming for adolescence addiction programs. She also is a certified mediator and custody evaluator.



Quynh Chu, M.D.
Associate Director

Dr. Chu finished her residency training at The Institute for Family Health, Mid-Hudson Family Medicine Residency Program in New York. After residency, she joined UPMC St. Margaret Faculty Development Fellowship Program. Through her fellowship training, she practiced as a junior faculty in various clinical settings. Her area of clinical interest is medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder. She has witnessed the rewarding impact of MAT on her patients and their families, and looks forward to transfer her clinical experience to future medical students and residents. In her free time, she loves creative writing. She also enjoys outdoor activities and quality time with her family.



Robert Deacon, M.D.
Pediatrics Director

Dr. Robert Deacon graduated from Brown University and the Medical College of Pennsylvania. He and his 12 partners comprise Heritage Valley Pediatric Associates and provide the full range of pediatric medical training in hospital and outpatient settings to the family medicine residents. Heritage Valley Pediatric Associates, one of the largest pediatric practices in Pennsylvania, has been affiliated with the family medicine residency program since its inception in 1979.



Lindsay Heiple, D.O.
Osteopathic Program Director

Dr. Heiple graduated from Canisius College in 2009 with a B.S. in Biology and a minor in music. She attended Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine and earned her medical degree in 2013. She is a graduate of the Heritage Valley Family Medicine Residency Program in 2016, where she served as the chief resident in her last year. She also completed a Targeted Area of Concentration in Faculty Development, and will be further enhancing her education skills by completing a Master's degree in Medical Education. She joined the residency program as a faculty member upon graduation. Dr. Heiple's

area of interest includes the integration of Osteopathic medicine and principles into daily practice and she looks forward to maintaining this as a focus of what she teaches residents and students.



Sophia Kunkle, M.D.
OB/GYN Director

Dr. Sophia Kunkle earned her medical degree from Northeast Ohio Medical University, Rootstown, OH and then completed her family medicine residency at UPMC St. Margaret Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA. Dr. Kunkle completed her family medicine and obstetric fellowship at UPMC St. Margaret and UPMC Magee Women's Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA. Following completion of her fellowship, she joined the faculty in 2023 where she models Obstetrics and Women's Health care from a family medicine perspective.



Jyothi Ranga Patri, M.D., M.H.A., DipABLM, FAAFP, HMDC
Associate Director, Director of Research, Hepatitis C Champion

Dr. Patri is board certified in Family Medicine, Lifestyle Medicine, and Hospice Medical Director Certification, and is a Fellow of the AAFP. She holds a Master's in Health Administration and completed her residency training at the University of Illinois College of Medicine, where she received the Best Resident Teacher Award. Prior to Heritage Valley, she served as Program Director of two Family Medicine Residency Programs in rural California and as Assistant Clinical Professor at UCSF Fresno, with clinical experience spanning underserved communities in Pennsylvania, California, and Texas.

At Heritage Valley, Dr. Patri serves as Associate Director and heads the Research Department. She is launching a Lifestyle Medicine Clinic and a Hepatitis C Clinic within the program. A prolific researcher, she has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications, textbook chapters in *The 5-Minute Clinical Consult*, and international presentations including WONCA conferences. She serves as Associate Editor for *BMC Medical Case Reports* and is a peer reviewer for multiple journals including the *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*.

Dr. Patri is an active leader in organized medicine, having served as President of the CAFFP Fresno-Madera-Kings Chapter and authored multiple resolutions adopted as AAFP and CAFFP policy. She was named a PAMED "Top Physician Under 40" and received the AFMRD Program Director Recognition Award. Her interests include physician well-being, lifestyle medicine, advocacy, rural health, and leadership development. Outside of medicine, she enjoys cooking vegetarian food, playing violin, and hiking.



Michael Pietrandrea, D.O.
Associate Director

Dr. Pietrandrea completed his residency at Bayhealth hospital systems located in central and southern Delaware. He attended medical school at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM.) Prior, he graduated with a masters in in biomedical science (forensic track) and attended undergraduate at The Pennsylvania State University- majoring in biology. His clinical interests include: mental health, sports medicine, lifestyle medicine and obesity medicine. However, his true passion in this profession is to teach and mentor young residents, shaping them to become the best physicians possible. Personal interests include: spending time with his wife and son;

following his favorite sports teams which includes, the Pittsburgh sports teams, Penn State, Manchester United, and AC Milan. Dr. Pietrandrea also enjoys going to the gym, playing video games and reading in his free time.



Autumn Stewart-Lynch, PharmD, BCACP, CTTs

Dr. Stewart-Lynch is a 2004 graduate of the Duquesne University, School of Pharmacy. She completed a Community Practice Pharmacy Residency and has since worked in a variety of settings as a clinical pharmacist including end-of-life care and a free health care center for the medically underserved. In 2008, she became a full-time clinical faculty member in the Duquesne University, School of Pharmacy and in this role has developed clinical pharmacy services at the Heritage Valley Family Medicine Center. Dr. Stewart-Lynch enjoys mentoring students and developing pharmacy practice models focused on interprofessional learning and patient-centered collaborative care.