Nema Bassiri, Ph.D., PGY3

Nema Bassiri grew up in San Antonio, Texas and received his B.S. in mathematics and engineering at Texas A&M. He pursued his doctoral degree at UT Health and studied dosimetric techniques for measuring dose enhancement in gold nanoparticle solutions. Nema is a second-year resident at UC Davis medical physics residency program, where he will gain hands-on, clinical training in medical physics. In his spare time, he likes to play chess and electric guitar as well as cook.

Megan Keohane, Ph.D., PGY2

Megan Keohane grew up in Kinsale, Ireland and received her B.S. in Physics, Bioengineering and Medical Physics from Technological University Dublin, Ireland. She then worked as a Clinical Engineer at a children hospital in Dublin, before moving to New York to pursue a masters in Medical Physics at Hofstra University. Megan is a first-year resident in the UC Davis Medical Physics program, where she is looking forward to gaining hands-on, clinical training in Medical Physics. In her spare time Megan enjoys traveling with friends and family and participating in all sports.

Radiation Oncology Faculty

Richard Valicenti, M.D.
Professor, Department Chair

Shyam Rao, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Medial Director

Ruben Fragoso, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Program Director

Megan Daly, M.D.
Associate Professor, CCC/PEC Chair

Arta Monjazeb, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Jason Zhao, M.D.
Assistant Professor, Director of Brachytherapy

Stanley Benedict, Ph.D.
Professor, Vice Chair of Physics

Sonja Dieterich, Ph.D., M.B.A.
Professor, Co-Program Director

Jason Matney, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Peter Park, Ph.D., D.A.B.R.
Associate Professor

Julian Perks, Ph.D.
Professor, Co-Program Director

Tokihiro Yamamoto, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Soheila Azghadi, M.D., PGY5

Soheila Fayeghi Azghadi is an advocate for women's health, a wife and a mother of two boys. She received her bachelor degree from UCLA in Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology with Cum Laude, and has worked at Broad Stem Cell Research Center as a clinical researcher investigating novel treatments for neurodegenerative diseases. She has pursued her medical degree from UC Davis School of Medicine. She has received multiple awards and recognition including Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Society Honor, American Women's Association Achievement Award, and Merck Award. She has been involved in initiating Phase II clinical trials at UC Davis, reviewing articles for Practical Radiation Oncology Journal, among other scholarly activities. She is an executive member in ACRRO and SWRO mentorship committees and subcommittees nationally, as well as Radiation Use Committee, Learning Climate Committee, and Cancer Center Quality and Safety at UC Davis. Her passion is to end disparity in cancer care, improve quality of care and care access, and reduce financial toxicity of cancer care. She enjoys doing outdoor activities with her children including biking, jogging and swimming.

Brittni Usera, M.D., PGY4

Brittni Usera grew up in Southern Oregon. She graduated from Southern Oregon University with a degree in Chemistry and Biology and then matriculated into medical school at the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine. She was excited to have matched at UC Davis for radiation oncology due to the career and lifestyle opportunities the residency program and the surrounding region provide. In her free time she enjoys running marathons and the occasional ultramarathon, cycling, backpacking, hiking, skiing, kayaking, swimming, and attempting to pioneer the sport “extreme sledding” in the Sierra Nevada’s. She recently decided to add parenting to her list of hobbies and loves spending weekends with her husband, infant daughter, and two malamutes. The adventurous family enjoys attempting to improve their dog sled capabilities. When she is not outside, she can be found sipping wine, trying out a new restaurant and creating new ways to bake protein-packed pastries.

Shera Feinstein, M.D., PGY3

Shera Feinstein ventured outside of Southern California for the first time to complete her Radiation Oncology training at UC Davis and so far, Northern California has far exceeded her expectations! Prior to moving to Sacramento, she grew up in Los Angeles, completed her undergraduate education at UC San Diego and medical school at University of Southern California. Shera is the first to admit her skepticism migrating north, but she has been blown away by the amount of natural beauty that can be seen in the greater Sacramento area and the kindness of the people she has met along the way. When she is not catching up on sleep or deep into a Netflix binge, Shera enjoys going on urban (and traditional) hikes, learning the Sacramento restaurant scene and making friends in her new city.

Patrick Beagen, M.D., PGY3

Patrick Beagen grew up in New Mexico, where he completed both his undergraduate and medical degrees. He completed three years of Anesthesiology at UC Davis before transitioning to Radiation Oncology. His hobbies include renovating his home, video games and cooking New Mexican foods.

Muhtada Aldin, M.D., Ph.D., PGY2

Muhtada Kamal Aldin grew up in Baghdad where he spent most of his childhood and attended Baghdad College High School. He then immigrated to the United States where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Integrative Human Biology from UC Berkeley. While in college, he had the opportunity to complete an internship at the Stanford Hematology lab investigating genetic links to ITP. Muhtada completed his medical education at UC Davis School of Medicine, where he served as treasurer in his class and received multiple letters of recognition in the disciplines of pathology, pharmacology, and MSK. He was also involved in stem cell research pertaining to Hemophilia A. Muhtada found his calling in medicine while taking care of cancer patients. Driven by his interests, he worked on research projects pertaining to breast cancer and lung cancer radiation, which gave his interest in the field of radiation oncology. He is currently a second-year resident at UC Davis Radiation Oncology after finishing a transitional year at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. When Muhtada is not delivering patient care, he likes to spend his time hiking, playing soccer, cycling and spending time with his two beloved cats Machu and Picchu.

Angel Morán, M.D., PGY5

Angel Morán grew up in the central coast of California and attended UC Santa Cruz for undergraduate training. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He then matriculated into the UC Davis School of Medicine. While in medical school, he was actively engaged in research projects and, with the support from our program's faculty, received multiple national research fellowships from ASTRO, ASCO and RSNA. He completed his internship at UCSF Fresno and was the recipient of the resident of the year award. Angel most enjoys working with the diverse patient population that UC Davis serves. In his free time, he enjoys playing board games and watching movies with his wife and daughter.

Ahsen Ahmed, M.D., Ph.D., PGY3

Ahsen Ahmed has a background in engineering and completed his Ph.D. in electrical engineering at the University of California, San Diego. Prior to pursuing medicine, he worked as a researcher for the Navy at the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center in San Diego where he led several research projects aimed at developing novel techniques for wireless and satellite communications. He completed his medical education at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, where his research focused on the effects of epigenetic changes on steroidogenesis in hormone sensitive cancers. He likes the outdoors and enjoys traveling with his family in his free time.