

Bruce E. Brockstein, MD, Medical Director Kellogg Cancer Center

Dr. Bruce Brockstein is a medical oncologist with an expertise in head and neck cancers, melanoma, and sarcoma. He is the Division Head of Hematology/ Oncology for NorthShore University HealthSystem, the Kellogg-Scanlon Chair of Oncology, the medical director for the NorthShore Kellogg Cancer Center, and Vice Chairman of the NorthShore Cancer Committee. He is a Clinical Associate Professor of medicine at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, where he also earned his medical degree and completed his post-doctoral fellow-ship in hematology/oncology. He completed his residency at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Brockstein serves as head and neck cancer section editor for a widely-used, online textbook; is a recent member of the Journal of Clinical Oncology editorial board (head and neck cancer); is the recent past Sarcoma Track Leader for the American Society of Clinical Oncology; and has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications and book chapters on his work in head and neck cancer and sarcomas. He has received numerous awards including the Steven A.Weisman Humanitarian Award from the Cancer Wellness Center.



Matthew E. Adess, MD, Gastrointestinal Oncologist

Dr. Matthew Adess is a Clinician Educator in medical oncology at NorthShore with an expertise in gastrointestinal cancer and benign hematology. He earned his medical degree from Loyola University of Chicago's Stritch School of Medicine, where he also completed an internship, residency, and post-doctoral fellowship in hematology/oncology. Dr. Adess is an active member of the regional leadership board of the Lake County American Cancer Society.



Marshall Baker, MD, Surgical Oncologist

Dr. Marshall Baker is a board-certified surgeon with an expertise in general surgery, oncologic surgery, and pancreatic cancer. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He earned his medical degree from Dartmouth Medical School and completed an internship at Georgetown University. Dr. Baker also completed a residency at Northwestern University, as well as a fellowship at both Northwestern University McGaw Medical Center and Indiana University School of Medicine.



Stacey Becker, MS, PA-C, Physician Assistant

Stacey Becker is a nationally certified physician assistant specializing in thoracic oncology at NorthShore's Kellogg Cancer Center. She completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Behavioral Neuroscience from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and then earned her Master of Science at Arcadia University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Ms. Becker is a past member of the Board of Directors for the Association of Physician Assistants in Oncology (APAO). She is certified by the National Commission for Certification of Physician Assistants.



Tiffany Benfield, APN, Nurse Practitioner

Tiffany Benfield is family nurse practitioner who specializes in head and neck cancer, sarcoma, melanoma and palliative care at NorthShore Kellogg Cancer Center. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and then earned her Master of Science degree at DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois. She holds two national board certifications with the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) as a family nurse practitioner as well as a palliative care nurse practitioner.



Mikir Bhayani, MD, Otolaryngologist

Dr. Mihir Bhayani is a board certified otolaryngologist with specialty expertise in head and neck cancer. Dr. Bhayani earned his medical degree from the University of Utah School of Medicine. He completed his residency in otolaryngology-head and neck surgery at University of Chicago Hospitals and completed fellowship training in head and neck surgery at University of Texas-M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. In addition to English, Dr. Bhayani speaks Gujurati.



William D. Bloomer, MD, Radiation Oncologist

Dr. Bloomer is Clinical Professor of Cellular and Radiation Oncology at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He is board certified in both therapeutic radiology and nuclear medicine. He has expertise in breast, prostate, lung and gastrointestinal cancer. He trained at Harvard Medical School and was on the faculty there for 12 years. Before coming to NorthShore, he had been the Benedum Professor and Chairman of Radiation Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh. He is past president and gold medalist of the American College of Radiation Oncology, has published over 175 scientific articles and holds six U.S. patents for his research activities.



Tammy Brown, ANP-C, Nurse Practitioner

Tammy Brown is an adult nurse practitioner who specializes in gastrointestinal oncology at NorthShore Kellogg Cancer Center. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas and then earned her Master of Science degree at North Park University in Chicago, Illinois. She holds a national certification with the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.



Nicholas Campbell, MD, Thoracic Oncologist

Dr. Nicholas Campbell is a medical oncologist with an expertise in thoracic, head and neck malignancies. He earned his medical degree at the Medical College of Georgia and completed both his residency in Internal Medicine and then fellowship in Medical Hematology/Oncology at the University of Chicago where he served as Chief Fellow. Dr. Campbell's clinical research interests include novel therapeutics, trial development, and bio-repository database management.



Physician, Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant Bios

General Information Kellogg Cancer Center



Leon H. Dragon, MD, Medical Oncologist

Dr. Leon Dragon is a medical oncologist at NorthShore with an expertise in breast cancer, ovarian cancer and multiple myeloma/lymphoma. Dr. Dragon is a Senior Clinician Educator at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and is the medical director for the Highland Park Kellogg Cancer Center. He received his medical degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago. His internship and residency were completed at the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center and the University of Chicago. He completed a post-doctoral fellowship in hematology/ oncology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He serves on several national committees including practice committees of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. He has received numerous awards and honors during his distinguished career, including the Myra Rubenstein Weiss Health Resource Center Award.



Alla Gimelfarb, MD, Hematology Oncologist

Dr. Alla Gimelfarb is a hematology oncologist with expertise in benign and malignant hematology as well as thoracic oncology. She is a Clinician Educator at University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. She earned her medical degree at the University of Illinois at Chicago and completed her internship, residency, and post-doctoral fellowship in hematology/oncology at Rush University Medical Center. Dr. Gimelfarb speaks both English and Russian.



David L. Grinblatt, MD, Hematology Oncologist

Dr. David Grinblatt is a board-certified hematologist/oncologist with special expertise in the management of leukemia, lymphoma and other blood conditions. He earned his medical degree at Case Western Reserve University and completed his medical residency and post-doctoral fellowship at Rush Medical Center and Northwestern University, respectively. Dr. Grinblatt is a Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and oversees the clinical research program at NorthShore. He currently serves on several committees of the National Cancer Institute and its Co-operative Group Program. Dr. Grinblatt also serves on the Executive Committee of the Cancer and Leukemia Group B research group. He has authored numerous peer-reviewed articles related to his work in hematology



Britt E. Hanson, DO, Hematology Oncologist

Dr. Britt Hanson is a board-certified hematologist with expertise in lung cancer and melanoma. She earned her medical degree from Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed post-doctoral fellowship training in hematology/oncology at Loyola University Medical Center/Hines Veterans Administration. Dr. Hanson is a Clinician Educator at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.





Thomas Hensing, MD, Thoracic Oncologist

Dr. Thomas Hensing is a medical oncologist and Co-Director of NorthShore's Thoracic Oncology Program, and a Clinical Associate Professor at University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He is a nationally recognized expert in lung cancer. He is one of the founders of the Lung Oncology Group in Chicago (LOGIC), whose goal is to develop novel treatment approaches for patients with lung cancer and to bring newer therapies to patients in their home community. He serves as committee Chairman for Oncology Quality and Performance Improvement, and Resident and Fellow Education. He earned his medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine and completed his residency and post-doctoral fellowship at the University of North Carolina.



John Howington, MD, Thoracic Surgical Oncologist

Dr. John Howington, Chief of Thoracic Surgery and Co-Director of the Thoracic Oncology Program at NorthShore, is recognized as one of the top lung cancer experts in the country and is renowned for his minimally invasive surgical approach. Dr. Howington is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He serves as the Vice Chair of the Thoracic Oncology Network for the American College of Chest Physicians and he is also a fellow for the American College of Surgeons and American College of Chest Physicians. He was elected to Best Doctors in America 2007-2008.



Jean A. Hurteau, MD, Gynecologic Oncologist

Dr. Jean Hurteau is board certified in gynecologic oncology and obstetrics & gynecology. He earned his medical degree at the University of Montreal and completed an internship at Mount Sinai Hospital- Canada. Dr. Hurteau, who speaks both French and English, completed a residency at the University of Toronto and a fellowship at Duke University Medical Center. Dr. Hurteau is currently a member of the Ovarian Committee of the Gynecologic Oncology Group, a cooperative group for clinical trials research sponsored by the National Cancer Institute. He is a Clinical Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.



Lynne Kaminer, MD, Hematology Oncologist

Dr. Kaminer is a board-certified hematologist and oncologist specializing in hematology/oncology and Chief of Hematology at NorthShore, where she is also head of the Autologous Bone Marrow Transplant Program and holds the Virginia and James Cozad Chair of Hematology/Oncology. She is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Kaminer earned her medical degree from Washington University and completed her internal medicine residency at University of Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia. Dr. Kaminer is the principal investigator for numerous research trials on leukemia, lymphoma, and multiple myeloma and the author of numerous papers related to her work in hematology. *(continued)*





Janardan Khandekar, MD, Medical Oncologist

Dr. Janardan Khandekar is an internationally recognized authority in clinical oncology and cancer research and the Director of NorthShore's Center for Molecular Medicine. Dr. Khandekar is a Clinical Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and immediate past chairman of the Department of Medicine and Division of Hematology/Oncology at NorthShore. He has received numerous awards and honors during his distinguished career, including being named Laureate by the American College of Physicians and receiving the Steven A. Weisman Humanitarian Award from the Cancer Wellness Center.



Ki Wan Kim, MD, Thoracic Oncologist

Dr. Ki Wan Kim earned a Bachelor of Arts in Integrative Biology from the University of California at Berkeley and his Medical Degree from the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. He completed General Surgery residency at the University of Southern California and additional residency training in thoracic surgery at the University of Michigan with emphasis in general thoracic surgery. He is Board Certified in general surgery and Board Eligible in thoracic surgery and is a Clinician Educator at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Kim's interests include thoracic oncology, minimally invasive thoracic surgery including robotic surgery, esophageal surgery, and mediastinal disease.



Carolyn V. Kirschner, MD, Gynecologic Oncologist

Dr. Carolyn Kirschner is a board-certified gynecologic oncologist at the NorthShore Kellogg Cancer Center. She earned her degree at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she also completed her residency. In addition, Dr. Kirschner served as a fellow at Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine. During a recent six-month sabbatical, Dr. Kirschner ran a gynecological clinic in Nigeria. She is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.



Teresa Murray Law, MD, Medical Oncologist

Dr. Teresa Murray Law is a board-certified medical oncologist with expertise in breast, lung and gynecologic/urologic cancers. She earned her medical degree from the University of Minnesota Medical School. She completed a residency at the Northwestern University Medical School and post-doctoral fellowship from the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Dr. Law also speaks Spanish.





Robert Marsh, MD, Medical Oncologist

Dr. Robert Marsh is a medical oncologist who is board certified in hematology, internal medicine, and medical oncology and serves as the Section Head of Gastrointestinal Oncology for NorthShore. He earned his medical degree from the University of Cape Town Medical School and completed his internship at Conradie Hospital. Dr. Marsh also completed a residency at St. Joseph Hospital and a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Florida where he served as full professor and associate division head, chair of the hospital Cancer Committee, director of the Cancer Center research office and director of the Oncology Clinics before coming to NorthShore. Dr. Marsh currently is a Clinical Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He is a recognized national expert in gastrointestinal and genitourinary cancers, serves on the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group's Gastrointestinal Committee and has published more than 80 papers and abstracts in peer-reviewed journals related to his areas of expertise.



Douglas E. Merkel, MD, Medical Breast Oncologist

Dr. Douglas Merkel is a board-certified medical oncologist with an expertise in breast cancer and is the Director of the Breast Cancer program at Kellogg Cancer Center. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Merkel earned his medical degree from Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine where he also completed his internship and residency. He currently serves as the chairman of NorthShore's Institute Review Board. Dr. Merkel also served as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He has authored numerous papers on his breast cancer research.



Ryan Merrell, MD, Neurologic Oncologist

Dr. Ryan Merrell is board-certified in neurology. He earned his medical degree from the University of Alabama School of Medicine and also completed an internship and a residency at the Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education. Dr. Merrell completed a fellowship in neuro-oncology at the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center/Dana Farber Institute program in Boston. He is a Clinical Associate Professor of Neurology at the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Merrell has participated in clinical and research trials as well as co-authored several book chapters and clinical reviews.



Joseph P. Muldoon, MD, Colon/Rectal Surgical Oncologist

Dr. Joseph P. Muldoon is a board-certified Colon and Rectal Surgeon with an expertise in minimally invasive colon and sphincter preserving rectal cancer procedures. His expertise includes laparoscopic surgery, robotic rectal surgery and transanal endoscopic microsurgery. He earned his medical degree from Wayne State University Medical School, and completed his General Surgery residency and research fellowships at Northwestern University. He completed his Colon and Rectal Surgery fellowship training at Lahey Clinic. Dr. Muldoon is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgery, and is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.

Physician, Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant Bios

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Ranjeev Nanda, MD, Radiation Oncologist

Dr. Nanda is a board certified radiation oncologist with special expertise in stereotactic radiosurgery, head and neck oncology and brain tumors. He earned his medical degree from the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, completed his internship at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta and his residency at the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York. Dr. Nanda is a Senior Clinician Educator at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.



Jennifer R. Obel, MD, Medical Oncologist

Dr. Jennifer Obel is a board-certified medical oncologist who specializes in gastrointestinal malignancies, breast cancer and palliative care. She earned her medical degree from Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine, where she also completed an internship and residency in Internal Medicine and completed her hematology and oncology fellowship at the University of Chicago. As a Spanishspeaking physician who also works as a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology's Communications Committee, Dr. Obel is responsible for educating the media, public and NorthShore patients about complex cancer issues.



Catherine Pesce, MD, Breast Surgical Oncologist

Dr. Catherine Pesce is a surgeon who specializes in breast cancer. She graduated from Duke University and earned her medical degree from Rush Medical College. She completed her internship and residency in general surgery at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, MD and a breast surgical oncology fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering in New York, NY. She is an Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Pesce sees patients at Highland Park Hospital.



Vathsala Raghavan, MD, Radiation Oncologist

Dr. Raghavan is a board certified radiation oncologist and has expertise in breast, gynecologic, head and neck and thyroid cancers. She completed her residency at the Ohio State University Hospital and a fellowship at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Dr. Raghavan is a Senior Clinician Educator at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. In addition to English, she speaks Hindi, Tamil, and Telugi.





Gustavo Rodriguez, MD, Gynecologic Oncologist

Dr. Gustavo Rodriguez is board certified in gynecologic oncology and obstetrics and gynecology. He earned his medical degree at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he also completed his residency. Dr. Rodriguez completed a post-doctoral fellowship and received his oncology training at the Duke University Medical Center and served as a faculty member there for 10 years. He is the Matthews Family Chair of Gynecologic Oncology Research and is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Rodriguez speaks both Spanish and English.



Arif K. Shaikh, MD, Radiation Oncologist

Dr. Shaikh is board certified in radiation oncology and a Clinical Assistant Professor of Radiation and Cellular Oncology at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He has special expertise in stereotactic radiosurgery, gynecologic, lung, head and neck, and breast tumors. He is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis and an AOA graduate of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He completed his residency at the University of Chicago. In addition to English, he speaks Hindi and Spanish.



Daniel H. Shevrin, MD, Medical Urologic Oncologist

Dr. Daniel Shevrin is board certified in medical oncology, internal medicine, and hospice & palliative medicine and is an expert in prostate and genitourinary cancers. He serves as a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He earned his medical degree from the University of Kansas Medical Center and he completed an internship, a residency, and a fellowship at the University of Illinois Medical Center and Clinics. He serves as medical director of the Glenbrook Kellogg Cancer Center and serves on numerous regional and national research Committees. He has authored many papers in peerreviewed journals related to his work in genitourinary cancer and bone metabolism. He also received the Steven A. Weisman Humanitarian Award from the Cancer Wellness Center.



James S Spitz, MD, Surgical Oncologist

Dr. James Spitz is a double board-certified surgeon whose clinical expertise focuses on the area of colon and rectal surgery with specific interests in colon and rectal cancers. His expertise includes minimally-invasive laparoscopic, robotic and endoscopic surgery. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and a Senior Attending at NorthShore University HealthSystem. He earned his medical degree from the Chicago Medical School. He completed his residency at the University of Illinois Medical Center, including a year as Administrative Chief Resident. He completed his Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellowship at the University of Illinois Medical Center and Cook County Hospital. Dr. Spitz is a fellow of both the American College of Surgeons and the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons.







Mark Talamonti, MD, Gastrointestinal Surgical Oncologist

Dr. Mark Talamonti's clinical expertise focuses on the area of gastrointestinal surgical oncology at NorthShore with specific interests in pancreas, liver, and gastric cancers. He earned his medical degree from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, where he also completed a residency in general surgery, including a year as Chief Administrative Resident. Dr. Talamonti has been honored with numerous awards including an Excellence in Teaching Award received every year as an attending physician at Northwestern. Currently, Dr. Talamanti is a Clinical Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Talamonti is the author of over 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications, as well as 25 book chapters and has authored two books on liver surgery and gastrointestinal oncology.



Nicholas A. Vick, MD, Neurologic Oncologist

Nicholas A. Vick, MD, is a Clinical Professor of Neurology at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Vick began the Neuro-Oncology Program at NorthShore in 1982, and is one of the "founding fathers" of neuro-oncology as a subspecialty. He has published more than 100 academic and research works throughout his career, and has lead and participated in numerous clinical trials. Dr. Vick earned his medical degree from the University of Chicago, where he also completed his internship and residency.



Elaine Lee Wade, MD, Medical Breast Oncologist

Dr. Elaine Lee Wade serves as Associate Director of the Patricia Nolan Breast Cancer at Glenbrook Hospital for NorthShore University HealthSystem and is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. She graduated from Loyola University and earned her medical degree from Rush Medical College. She completed her medicine residency at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center and a post-doctoral fellowship with a breast cancer focus at Northwestern University. Dr. Wade is currently president of the North Shore Region of American Cancer Society, Illinois Division and has served on the grant review committee for the Susan G. Komen organization.





David P. Winchester, MD, FACS, FACR (Hon.), Surgical Oncologist

Dr. Winchester graduated from Northwestern University, where he also received his general surgical training. He completed his surgical oncology fellowship at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. He currently is Clinical Professor of Surgery at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and the immediate past Chairman of the Department of Surgery of NorthShore University HealthSystem. He is the Medical Director of the National Cancer Programs of the American College of Surgeons and Principal Investigator of the National Cancer Database (NCDB) with a focus on tracking outcomes in cancer patients and promoting continuous quality improvement of cancer care. Dr. Winchester has authored 200 peer-reviewed journal articles, serves on 10 editorial boards and has edited/co-edited 5 books. He is a past-president of the Society of Surgical Oncology and currently serves as the Executive Director of the American Joint Committee on Cancer. He is the past Chairman of the National Accreditation Program of Breast Centers (NAPBC) for the American College of Surgeons. He is an honorary member of the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology and an honorary fellow of the American College of Radiology.



David J. Winchester, MD, Breast Surgical Oncologist

Dr. David J. Winchester is a surgical oncologist specializing in breast cancer at the NorthShore Kellogg Cancer Center and Chairman of the NorthShore Cancer Committee. He graduated with honors from Dartmouth College and earned his medical degree from Northwestern University. He completed his general surgery training at Northwestern University and his surgical oncology fellowship at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Winchester is a Clinical Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He is nationally recognized for leading surgical research trials in breast cancer.



Katharine Yao, MD, Breast Surgical Oncologist

Dr. Katharine Yao is Director of the Breast Surgical Program at NorthShore. She specializes in surgical treatment of breast cancer, cancer risk assessment and prevention, breast cancer imaging, and breast cancer research. Dr. Yao completed an internship and residency in general surgery at Northwestern University and a surgical oncology fellowship at the John Wayne Cancer Institute in California. Before coming to NorthShore she was Director of the Breast Clinical Program at Loyola University Medical Center for five years. Dr. Yao is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.

