

OHNS Spotlight

February 2024

**HENRY
FORD
HEALTH®**



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A Mission to Heal from
Michigan to the Middle East

Head and Neck Cancer
Integrated Model Optimizes
Patient Experience and
Outcomes

A Mission to Heal from Michigan to the Middle East

As a facial plastic surgeon who has managed reconstructive disorders for more than a decade, I have been drawn to the specialty for a variety of reasons. Most notably, the face is what we present to the world. When issues arise causing disfigurement, it is gratifying to perform reconstructive procedures to try and give patients back what they may have lost.

Henry Ford Health is a pioneer in multidisciplinary and collaborative care which lends itself nicely to facial plastics. The spirit of collaboration, teamwork and patient-centered care has also aided in my mission work to provide care for several hundred refugees in the Middle East and Southeast Asia.

Treatment has included scar revision procedures in Vietnam, management of eyelid, lip, nose, ear, and neck scars in Turkey and three trips to Lebanon to provide care for nasal scarring, nasal reconstruction and functional nasal surgery.



SAMS mission trips

My first experience with [Syrian American Medical Society Foundation \(SAMS\)](#) Lebanon was on a mission trip in 2018. SAMS is non-profit, non-governmental, non-religious organization made up of a variety of healthcare specialists dedicated to providing care to Syrian and non-Syrian refugees throughout the world.

I believe their mission aligned well with my mission, so it was a perfect fit. They have solid organizational structure, dedicated teams on the ground in multiple countries and a large network of medical professionals in the US and beyond to provide care to this population.

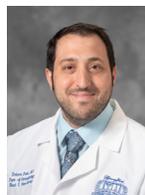
Initially I was approached by colleagues, informing me that there was great need in Turkey due to the large refugee population and particularly the facial injuries were quite extensive, so my skillset aligned well with the need. The work generally begins several months in advance of the trip as we try to identify patients who would benefit most from our interventions. Upon arrival, additional screening is performed, surgical plans are created, and care is delivered in the safest and most efficient manner.

During my humanitarian outreach work in Lebanon, the focus has been on facial reconstructive surgery and functional nasal surgery. Some of the most impactful surgeries revolve around treating severe nasal obstruction due to nasal deformities. These patients have often suffered for many years with difficulty breathing. Additionally, we performed scar revision surgery on different areas of the face, to relieve pain, irritation, and the stigma associated with facial deformities.

The humanitarian trips have included team building and networking, which is a critical component of the SAMS mission of providing high quality care to those in need. We have also formed connections with local healthcare providers and administrative staff, which then allows for greater continuity of care.

Teaching is also an important mission of the humanitarian trips. When trainees are part of the mission, we are able to expose the next generation of surgeons to the environment with the hope that they will stay engaged with SAMS and humanitarian outreach work.

It is important to note that being a well-trained, comprehensive facial plastic surgeon is imperative in performing surgeries abroad. There is very little room for error and the environment can be very challenging. Flexibility, versatility and an emphasis on safety are all cornerstones of providing care on humanitarian missions. Colleagues interested in supporting this highly rewarding global medical relief organization are encouraged to visit the [Sams Foundation](#).



[Robert Deeb, MD](#)

Director, Division of Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery
Henry Ford Health

Head and Neck Cancer Integrated Model Optimizes Patient Experience and Outcomes

As a medical student, watching complex head and neck reconstructions sparked my interest in focusing my specialty in this field. Although I grew up in the Detroit area and obtained my training out of state, what drew me back to Michigan and to work at Henry Ford Health was their development of a world class [cancer care center](#) with significant emphasis and resources focused on a very well-designed, patient-centered head and neck cancer program..

Henry Ford's approach on navigating head and neck cancer diagnosis

Because a head and neck cancer diagnosis is often traumatizing and complex, it is critical for patients to have a true health partner that can take the lead in navigating all of their cancer care every step of the way. This is where Henry Ford Health differentiates itself from many other providers.

Our model is designed to bring patients into one location with all the services that they need with a strong navigation support. This involves not only exemplary surgeons, radiation oncologists and medical oncologists. When a patient is told they have seven appointments in three days or they need help with how they can get more calories despite the fact that they can't eat normally, it makes all the difference for a patient and their families to have a point of contact with a nurse navigator who can facilitate support from specialists ranging from cancer psychologists to speech and language pathologists, social workers, community health workers and support staff so that the patient can get from their diagnosis through their treatment and onto recovery in a seamless fashion.

Partnership with dental clinic and oral surgery division

Another key component of comprehensive head and neck care at Henry Ford entails the integration of treatment with our Dental Clinic and Oral Surgery Division. [Steven Chang, MD](#), Chair of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery and Medical Director of the Center for Patient Reported Outcomes at Henry Ford Health had the important vision of integrating a full set of dental services to set patients up for dental rehabilitation after complex head and neck reconstruction. Working with dentists and oral surgeons to execute a surgical plan so the bone used during reconstruction can be shaped to support dentures

or implants with the goal of improving oral function and aesthetic outcomes is an important goal of improving a patient's quality of life after head and neck surgery.

In addition to the dentistry partnership, we offer virtual surgical planning where we can design our reconstructive plan on a computer ahead of time so we can predict and model a patient's reconstruction within a millimeter of accuracy. This allows us to not just put the bone in but also put the implants in at the same time. This cutting-edge technology can cut a patient's time for getting to dental implants by almost one year. Candidates include people with benign tumors or those whose jaw has to be replaced but doesn't require radiation or additional treatment.

Integration of speech and language pathology support

Quality of life is a critical part of head and neck cancer care. Our integrated speech and language pathology support is a crucial component of restoring function for patients so that post surgery and radiation treatment, patients have a partner within the health system to relearn how to swallow with their new anatomy. Working with our patients from before surgery, immediately post operatively and through their entire treatment plan is a major contributing factor in getting patients to not only a good cancer outcome but long-term functional outcome.

Focus on getting patients back to doing what they love

When it comes to head and neck complex surgical treatment, it's not always a home run but our Henry Ford team draws great satisfaction from our hits. Whether it's a former 16-year-old basketball player who needed reconstruction of his entire soft palate but is now playing the sport he loves for his college team or a mom who after a cancer recurrence required extensive head and neck surgical treatment but was able to be part of her daughter's most important day of her life at her wedding, it validates the importance of Henry Ford Health's integrated model to get a patient through their cancer pathway, get them through their reconstruction and radiation so they can enjoy their quality of life afterward.



[Suhael R Momin, MD](#)

Department of Otolaryngology-
Head & Neck Surgery
Henry Ford Health

Quick facts

Henry Ford Otolaryngology

- Includes the Divisions of Audiology, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and a section of General Hospital Dentistry
- USNWR Top Hospital Ranking 3 years in a row
- Otolaryngology services provided at 5 Henry Ford Health hospitals
- 8 outpatient clinics
- More than 3,500 surgeries annually
- More than 68,000 outpatient visits
- 26 otolaryngologists in the department
- 2 oral & maxillofacial surgeons with recruitment efforts for an additional 2 surgeons
- 2 general hospital dentists
- 23 audiologists, 4 audiology fellows
- 10 advanced practice providers
- 13 otolaryngology residents
- 1 head and neck cancer fellow
- More than \$36M in patient revenue
- Department produced in 2023:
peer reviewed publications = 57
abstracts = 32
oral/poster presentations = 25
- Approved OMFS residency program to begin AY 2024-2025

Head and Neck Cancer

- In top 10 percentile for time of initiation of postoperative radiation therapy for head and neck cancer patients < 6 weeks
- 900 surgeries
- Surgery services provided at all 5 Henry Ford Health hospitals
- More than 80 reconstructive cases annually
- 5,800 outpatient visits

Some Highlighted 2023 Manuscripts from our Team:

Tam S, Zatirka T, Neslund-Dudas C, Su WT, Cannella CE, **Grewal JS**, Mattour AH, Tang A, Movsas B, and **Chang SS**. Real time patient-reported outcome measures in patients with cancer: Early experience within an integrated health system. *Cancer Med* 2023; 12(7):8860-8870. PMID: 36670551. doi.org/10.1002/cam4.5635

Lyons AB, Ozog DM, Lim HW, Viola K, Tang A, and **Jones LR**. The Detroit Keloid Scale: A Validated Tool for Rating Keloids. *Facial Plast Surg Aesthet Med* 2023; 25(2):119-125. PMID: 35394356. doi.org/10.1089/fpsam.2021.0359

Eide JG, **Mason W**, **Ray A**, Carey J, Cook B, and **Craig JR**. Systematic review of errors on beta-2 transferrin gel electrophoresis testing of rhinorrhea and otorrhea. *Int Forum Allergy Rhinol* 2023. PMID: 37864574. doi.org/10.1002/alr.23293

Yaremchuk K. USPSTF Updates Recommendation for Obstructive Sleep Apnea Screening in Adults. *JAMA Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg* 2023; 149(1):5-6. PMID: 36378294. doi.org/10.1001/jamaoto.2022.3844

Donaldson LB, **Deeb RH**, **Momin S**, **Eide JG**, and **Craig JR**. Cadaveric and Computed Tomography Analysis of the Anterior Ethmoidal Artery Flap. *Laryngoscope* 2023; Epub ahead of print. PMID: 37950636

Williams AM, **Tam SH**, and **Adjei Boakye E**. Firearm Safety for Patients Diagnosed With Cancer-A Role in Suicide Prevention. *JAMA Oncol* 2023; 9(5):605-606. PMID: 36862388. doi.org/10.1001/jamaoncol.2022.7823
Larrabee K, Meeks N, Williams AM, Springer K, Siddiqui F, Chang SS, Ghanem T, Wu VF, Momin S, and Tam S. Cognitive Function and Postoperative Outcomes in Patients with Head and Neck Cancer. *Laryngoscope* 2023; 133(11):2999-3005. PMID: 37017269. doi.org/10.1002/lary.30677

Marget MJ, **Dunn R**, and **Morgan CL**. Association of APACHE-II Scores With 30-Day Mortality After Tracheostomy: A Retrospective Study. *Laryngoscope* 2023; 133(2):273-278. PMID: 35548918. doi.org/10.1002/lary.30211
Deeb R. Ethnically Sensitive Rhinoplasty. *Facial Plast Surg* 2023; 39(5):527-536. PMID: 37279876. doi.org/10.1055/a-2106-6677

Donaldson L, Wulu J, and **Garcia-Rodriguez L**. Gender Affirmation Surgery of the Face for the Transfeminine Patient. *Facial Plast Surg* 2023; 39(5):569-574. PMID: 37196665. doi.org/10.1055/a-2095-6292
Chen AY, and **Singer MC**. Thyroid and Parathyroid Surgery: No Longer "Horrid Butchery". *Otolaryngol Clin North Am* 2023. PMID: 37640561. doi.org/10.1016/j.otc.2023.08.003

Howell RJ, Ekbohm D, Kasperbauer J, Tabangin M, Altaye M, Wahab S, Belafsky P, Allen J, Amin M, Bayan S, Cervenka B, deSilva B, Dion G, Friedman A, Fritz M, Giliberto JP, Guardiani E, Harmon J, Khosla S, Kim B, Kuhn M, Kwak P, Ma Y, Madden L, Matrka L, **Mayerhoff R**, Piraka C, Rosen C, Wilson K, Wright C, Young V, Yuen S, and Postma G. Cricopharyngeus Muscle Dysfunction and Hypopharyngeal Diverticula (e.g., Zenker): A Multicenter Study. *Laryngoscope* 2023; 133(6):1349-1355. PMID: 36102298. doi.org/10.1002/lary.30387

Tam S, Neslund-Dudas C, Barrett AM, Barrow LCJ, Fridman I, Kinlaw AC, Puvindran P, Royce TJ, Smith AB, Stein JN, Wood WA, and Lafata JE. The Perceived Usability of Virtual Visits Among Black Adults' Receiving Oncology Care: A Qualitative Analysis. *Oncologist* 2023. PMID: 37756655. doi.org/10.1093/oncolo/oyad260

Adjei Boakye E, Nair M, Abouelella DK, Joseph CLM, Gerend MA, Subramaniam DS, and Osazuwa-Peters N. Trends in Reasons for Human Papillomavirus Vaccine Hesitancy: 2010-2020. *Pediatrics* 2023; 151(6). PMID: 37218460. doi.org/10.1542/peds.2022-060410

Choi E, **Leonard KW**, **Jassal JS**, Levin AM, Ramachandra V, and **Jones LR**. Artificial Intelligence in Facial Plastic Surgery: A Review of Current Applications, Future Applications, and Ethical Considerations. *Facial Plast Surg* 2023; 39(5):454-459. PMID: 37353051. doi.org/10.1055/s-0043-1770160

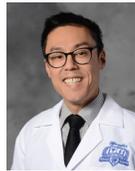
Henry Ford Health Otolaryngology Providers

To request a consult or referral to a Henry Ford Health physician, call (877) 434-7470 or [refer a patient online](#).

Comprehensive Otolaryngology



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[Pavan Reddy, M.D.](#)



[Joshua Romero, M.D.](#)



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Endocrine Surgery



[Michael Singer, M.D.](#)
Division Head

Facial Plastics / Reconstruction



[Robert Deeb, M.D.](#)
Division Head

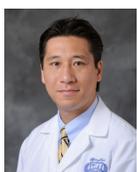


[Lamont Jones, M.D.](#)

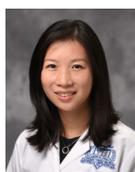


[Laura Garcia-Rodriguez, M.D.](#)

Head and Neck Cancer Surgery



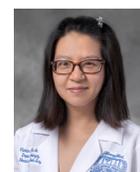
[Steven Chang, M.D.](#)
Department Chair



[Samantha Tam, M.D.](#)
Division Head
Vice-Chair



[Shivangi Lohia, M.D.](#)



[Vivian Wu, M.D.](#)

Head And Neck Cancer Surgery / Microvascular Reconstruction

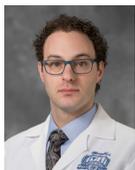


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[Suhael Momin, M.D.](#)

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[Ross Mayerhoff, M.D.](#)
Division Head



[Glendon Gardner, M.D.](#)

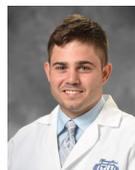


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[Jerrold Armstrong, D.D.S.](#)
Division Head

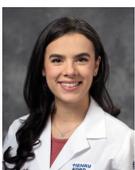


[Benjamin Barbetta, D.M.D., M.D.](#)



[Jaroslaw Buda, C.N.P.](#)

Hospital Dentistry

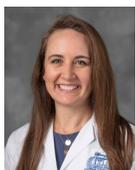


[Angela Douglas, D.D.S.](#)

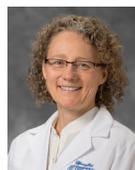


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[Kristen Angster, M.D.](#)
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Vice-Chair



[Laura Brainard, M.D.](#)



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Rhinology and Anterior Skull Base

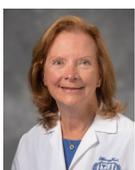


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Sleep Medicine



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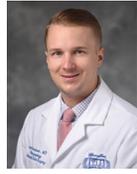


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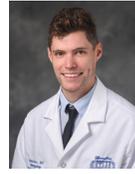
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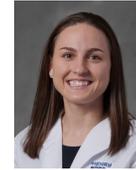
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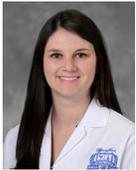


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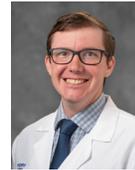
Advanced Practice Practitioners



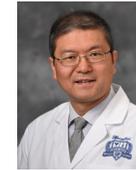
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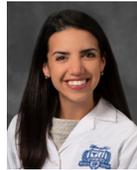
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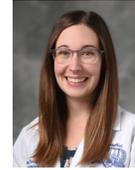
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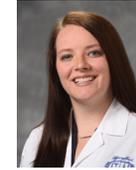
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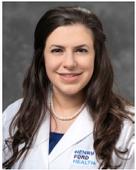
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[Samantha Conn, AuD](#)



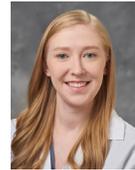
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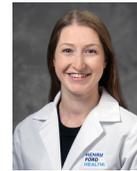
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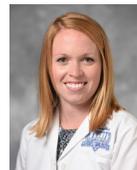
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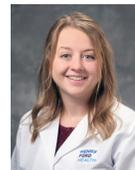
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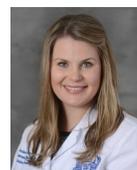
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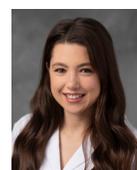
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