

Scripps Mercy Family Medicine Residents — Class of 2014



Mateo Alaniz, MD

University of New Mexico School of Medicine

Mateo graduated from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. There he worked on a research project titled “An estimation of eligibility for a new program of the University of New Mexico Hospital pay policy for undocumented immigrants”. Mateo volunteered with a free clinic for children in the rural Pajarito Mesa community. Mateo enjoys playing guitar, basketball and fantasy football.



Jessica Brayton, DO

A.T. Still University School Of Osteopathic Medicine

Jessica graduated from the A.T. Still University, School of Osteopathic Medicine. She participated in a unique two-year academic curriculum at the Health Point Community Health Center in the state of Washington where she worked to implement a “Healthy Hearts” program. Jessica has been active in the global and local community outreach in rural Guatemala, South King County Washington and the UCSD Free Clinic Project. In her leisure time, Jessica enjoys traveling, good food and outdoor adventures.



Christina Deis, MD, MPH

Boston University School Of Medicine

My name is Cristina Deis and I am a recent graduate from Boston University School of Medicine where I received my MD and MPH degrees. My area of focus was Maternal and Child Health, which led me to participate in various projects, including identifying modifiable risk factors in the Perinatal period and working with women with intellectual and developmental disabilities and mammography. It feels good to be back in San Diego where I completed my undergraduate studies at UCSD. When I am not at work, I enjoy relaxing with my husband and dog, going to the beach, going for runs, and spending time with my family.



Anna Garcia, MD

University Of California, San Diego School Of Medicine

Having been born, raised and educated in San Diego, Anna is passionate about the local community. Anna went to PLNU for undergrad and UCSD for medical school. She and her husband are from East County and love their home in Fletcher Hills. Anna couldn't have been happier to stay in town to serve the community in Chula Vista. Anna is enthusiastic about caring for our aging community, and enjoyed participating in a student-senior partnership program that linked medical students with the geriatric community—also spent time researching the link between optimism and successful aging. She hopes to continue to develop this passion

throughout her training, especially while growing her Spanish-speaking skills. Anna and her husband enjoy home remodeling, yard work, and spending time with their friends and family—all of whom are in town! Anna especially enjoys laughing candidly with friends about absolutely anything, painting her nails, and hosting any sort of fun get together in their home.



Veronica Gonzalez, MD

Albany Medical College

Veronica graduated from Albany Medical College where she has been active with the Student National Medical Association. As a UCLA undergraduate, Veronica worked with David Hayes-Bautista in the Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, studying the role of community health-promoters. In addition she had the opportunity to assist with TB research in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Veronica stays physically active with running, yoga and spinning.



Oren Rodriguez, MD, MPH

University Of Arizona College Of Medicine

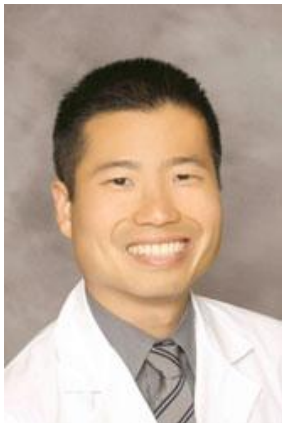
Originally from South Texas, Oren grew up in multiple places throughout the U.S. and overseas, including east San Diego where he attended high school in El Cajon. He graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy with a degree in English and was fortunate to serve in the military with his father. During medical school, Oren discovered a love for Family Medicine while working with Arizona's native populations on the Navajo and Hopi reservations. He was also active in the Commitment to Underserved People program and helped edit the Harmony magazine, featuring student art and literature. He is excited for residency in Chula

and hopes to improve his Spanish skills. His interests include running, writing short stories, eating breakfast and talking about life.



Pooja Shah, MD
New York Medical College

Pooja graduated from New York Medical College where she was elected to the AOA and the Gold Humanism Society. Her international outreach experiences have led her to projects in Ecuador and Costa Rica. Pooja participated in the Cal-SEARCH program at an FQHC in Oakland, CA and created a cardiovascular patient education curriculum. Pooja's intramural sports participation is extensive and includes playing quarterback on the Powderpuff football team and Ultimate Frisbee.



Aki Wen, DO
Western University Of Health Sciences

Born in Taiwan, Aki moved to San Diego at the age of 8. He attended UC San Diego as an undergraduate. It was there that he developed a passion for working with underprivileged teenagers. He was involved with organizing health outreaches at local high schools. During medical school his desire to help those with poor access to care led him to volunteer at clinics dedicated to the uninsured. He also spent time in Peru learning Spanish and delivering medical care to those in need. Aki's interests include Adolescent Health and LGBT health issues. Never wanting to leave the beach with all the kayaking and ocean view runs it offers, Aki is excited to be back in San Diego. He is equally happy

to be at Scripps with its commitment to the community and amazingly friendly faculty and residents. During his free time he enjoys running at Torrey Pines, watching classic game shows, and learning how to stand-up paddle board with his fellow classmates.