

## Pediatric hematologist/oncologist joins Children's Hospital, University of Florida Health

**PENSACOLA, Fla.** (Dec. 9, 2020) — Pediatric hematologist/oncologist [Pauline Balkaransingh, MD, MPH](#), has joined the faculty of the University of Florida College of Medicine, which is affiliated with the Studer Family Children's Hospital at Ascension Sacred Heart. Dr. Balkaransingh will see patients full time in the Children's Hospital and in her new outpatient office in the Pediatric Specialist Tower, 5153 N. Ninth Ave., on the Ascension Sacred Heart Pensacola campus.

As a pediatric hematologist/oncologist, Dr. Balkaransingh diagnoses and treats children with cancers, blood diseases and bleeding disorders. Dr. Balkaransingh joins the office of pediatric hematologists/oncologists Dr. Jeffrey Schwartz, Dr. Eryn Smith and Dr. Amanda Strobel. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Balkaransingh or other UF Health [pediatric specialists](#) at Ascension Sacred Heart, call 850-416-1575.

Dr. Balkaransingh is a fellowship-trained and board-certified pediatric hematologist/oncologist. She graduated with her medical degree from the University of the West Indies at St. Augustine in Trinidad and Tobago. She completed pediatric residency training at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune City, New Jersey, serving as chief resident, and she graduated with a master's degree in public health from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. She received a pediatric hematology/oncology fellowship at Children's Hospital of Richmond in Virginia, where she served as chief fellow, followed by a fellowship in coagulation at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.

She has served as a clinical assistant professor at Penn State College of Medicine and an attending pediatric hematologist/oncologist at Indiana Regional Medical Center and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Her research has been published in medical journals such as Contemporary Pediatrics, Pediatric Blood and Cancer, Journal of Pain and Symptom Management, Therapeutic Advances in Hematology and the British Journal of Radiology. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of the American Society of Hematology, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology.

Through its affiliation with UF Health, the Children's Hospital provides specialized pediatric care for children across 14 pediatric subspecialties. To find a doctor, call 850-416-1575 or visit [studerfamilychildrenshospital.com](http://studerfamilychildrenshospital.com).

UF Health Shands Children's Hospital is recognized among the nation's best hospitals by U.S. News & World Report in five pediatric medical specialties. In addition to pediatric specialty care, Sacred Heart

and UF Health collaborate on a kidney transplant program to benefit the thousands of individuals across the Southeast awaiting a lifesaving transplant. Sacred Heart's pediatric, OB/GYN and internal medicine physician residency programs are also affiliated with the UF College of Medicine.

As Northwest Florida's only children's hospital, the Studer Family Children's Hospital includes a pediatric emergency department, Level III neonatal intensive care unit, medical/surgical beds, observation beds, a pediatric imaging department, pharmacy, inpatient rehabilitation gym, child life playrooms, outpatient lab services and a new family-friendly dining venue. More than 120 pediatric doctors serve on the children's hospital's medical staff, caring for kids across 30 pediatric specialties. For more information, visit [studerfamilychildrenshospital.com](http://studerfamilychildrenshospital.com).

### **About Ascension Sacred Heart**

In Florida, Ascension operates Ascension Sacred Heart based in Pensacola and Ascension St. Vincent's based in Jacksonville. Together, Ascension Florida operates seven hospitals and more than 100 other sites of care, and employs more than 11,000 associates. Across the region, Ascension Sacred Heart and Ascension St. Vincent's have served North Florida communities for more than 145 years. In fiscal year 2019, they provided nearly \$180 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty. Ascension ([www.ascension.org](http://www.ascension.org)) is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As one of the leading non-profit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Ascension includes approximately 150,000 associates and 40,000 aligned providers. The national health system operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 150 hospitals and more than 50 senior living facilities – in 20 states and the District of Columbia. For more information on Ascension Sacred Heart, visit <https://healthcare.ascension.org>.

### **About University of Florida Health**

UF Health is the Southeast's most comprehensive academic health center. With main campuses in Gainesville and Jacksonville, UF Health includes six health colleges, nine research institutes and centers, two teaching hospitals, six specialty hospitals and a host of physician medical practices and outpatient services throughout North Central and Northeast Florida. Its mission is to promote health through outstanding and high-quality patient care, innovative and rigorous education in the health professions and biomedical sciences, and high-impact research across the spectrum of basic, translational and clinical investigation.

UF Health includes the UF colleges of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health and Health Professions, and Veterinary Medicine, which has both a large animal hospital and a small animal hospital. The system also encompasses several UF research institutes and centers. The full spectrum of patient-care services are provided through UF Health Shands Hospital and UF Health Jacksonville, UF's private, not-for-profit affiliates. UF Health Shands in Gainesville includes UF Health Shands Children's Hospital, UF Health Shands Cancer Hospital, the UF Health Heart & Vascular Hospital and the UF Health Neuromedicine Hospital. Two additional specialty hospitals, UF Health Shands Rehab Hospital and UF Health Shands Psychiatric Hospital, are also in Gainesville. UF Health Jacksonville and UF Health North Hospital are the system's Northeast Florida hospitals. UF Health offers a network of outpatient rehabilitation centers, two home health agencies in Gainesville and Jacksonville, and more than 100 UF physician outpatient practices throughout North Central and Northeast Florida.

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