

# PRIMARY CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL (PCAC) MEETING AGENDA

**MAY 21ST, 2025  
1:00PM TO ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting will be held online or by phone. The online and phone meeting details are:

Virtual Teams Meeting Address Link:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3a6eb78745cf9b45fcb00e1389fcf144d2%40thread.tacv2/1747080165202?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e4a340e6-b89e-4e68-8eaa-1544d2703980%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22fd584ae0-7446-4961-b1f2-b3a4b67384b5%22%7d>

Or call in (audio only)

+1 775-321-6111 United States, Reno  
Phone Conference ID: 216637121#

*This meeting is recorded pursuant to the Nevada Open Meeting Law (Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 241). Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson's discretion. A break may be scheduled at the Chairperson's discretion.*

1. Call to order/roll call – Staff
2. Possible Action: Review and possible approval of minutes from the April 8th, 2025 meeting – Chairperson

## PUBLIC COMMENT

3. Informational Only: Overview of recent appointment of Kathleen Stodtmeister as a representative from The Nevada State Medical Association to the Primary Care Advisory Council by the Administrator of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health. – Tarryn Emmerich-Choi, Health Resource Analyst, PCO

## PUBLIC COMMENT

4. Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to make recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Radhika Arya – Tarryn Emmerich-Choi, Primary Care Manager, PCO

## PUBLIC COMMENT

5. Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to make recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Mohab Mahmoud Ahmed Khalil Elmohr – Tarryn Emmerich-Choi, Primary Care Manager, PCO

PUBLIC COMMENT

6. Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to make recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Sahana Durganna – Tarryn Emmerich-Choi, Primary Care Manager, PCO

PUBLIC COMMENT

7. Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to make recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Mayela Andreina Duque Blanco – Tarryn Emmerich-Choi, Primary Care Manager, PCO

PUBLIC COMMENT

8. Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to make recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Lalitha Padmanabha Reddy Vemireddy – Tarryn Emmerich-Choi, Primary Care Manager, PCO

PUBLIC COMMENT

9. Public Comment: No Action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken.

10. Adjournment

NOTICE OF THIS MEETING AGENDA HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING  
LOCATIONS:

Nevada Public Notice website: <https://notice.nv.gov>  
Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), Primary Care Office website:  
[https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/PCO/Meetings/2025/Primary\\_Care\\_Advisory\\_Council\\_FFY2025Meetings/](https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/PCO/Meetings/2025/Primary_Care_Advisory_Council_FFY2025Meetings/)  
[DPBH – 4150 Technology Way, Carson City, NV 89706](https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/PCO/Meetings/2025/Primary_Care_Advisory_Council_FFY2025Meetings/)

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for individuals who wish to attend this meeting. If special arrangements or equipment are necessary, please notify the Nevada Primary Care Office at [nvpco@health.nv.gov](mailto:nvpco@health.nv.gov) or in writing, at Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Attn: Primary Care Office, 4150 Technology Way, Suite 300, Carson City, NV 89706 or by calling (775) 684-2204 no less than three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

Inquiries regarding the items scheduled for this Council meeting or if a member of the public would like to request the supporting material for this meeting, please contact Nevada Primary Care Office at [nvpco@health.nv.gov](mailto:nvpco@health.nv.gov) or (775) 684-2204.

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
April 8, 2025  
9:30AM to Adjournment

**TELECONFERENCE:**

In accordance with Governor Sisolak's Declaration of Emergency Directive 006; Subsection 1; The requirement contained in NRS 241.023 (1) (b) that there be a physical location designated for meetings of public bodies where members of the public are permitted to attend and participate is suspended.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Gerald Ackerman  
Dr. Donald Campbell  
Dr. Susan VanBeuge  
Dr. Amir Qureshi  
Suellen Bacigalupi (designee)  
Kathleen Stodtmeister (designee)  
Steve Messinger (designee)

**COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Nancy Bowen (sent Steve Messinger as designee)  
Sarah Watkins (sent Kathleen Stodtmeister)  
Julie Clyde (sent Suellen Bacigalupi)

**DPBH/DHCFP STAFF PRESENT:**

Tarryn Emmerich-Choi, Health Resource Analyst, PCO

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**1. Roll call and confirmation of quorum.**

**2. Approval of minutes:**

Gerald Ackerman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the February 20th, 2025 meeting. No recommendations were made.

**First Motion:** Gerald Ackerman moves to pass the approval of minutes

**Second Motion:** Dr. Qureshi seconds

**Motion:** Passes Unanimously, Steve Messinger abstains on behalf of Nancy Bowen as neither attended the previous meeting.

**3. Recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Zeeshan Zia.**

Tarryn Emmerich-Choi presented a summary handout of the completed application. Dr. Qureshi asks what the current strength of their group is, as he believes they have had a lot of J-1 physicians at



Sunrise Hospital. Dr. Qureshi continues to make a general statement regarding the approval of hospital based doctors, a lot of J-1 doctors are being hired and it can unfortunately sideline those who have been working there for a long time. Tarryn Emmerich-Choi pulls a database and states that there are currently 6 active J-1 physicians employed by United Critical Care. Out of those 6 active physicians there are 3 critical care intensivists, 1 neuro intensivist, 1 infectious disease specialist and 1 pulmonary and critical care specialist. 3 of these physicians were in the 2024 cycle, 1 in 2023, 1 in 2022 and the 1 doctor that we are currently discussing. Dr. Qureshi confirms that these are all J-1 doctors, and Tarryn confirms. Dr. Qureshi asks if we have a list of the non j-1 working for United Critical Care, Tarryn states that they do not have access to that information, but they do ask in the application for the optimal physician to patient ratio, but that is specialty specific not for all physicians at a facility. For Dr. Zia's specialty the current physician to provider ratio is 1:20, and the optimum is 1:12. Tarryn continues that the packet also includes the distance to travel to the nearest provider, as well as a letter stating the need for the specialty in the area. Tarryn mentions that it is always important to be aware of large quantities of J-1 doctors in one location. Dr. Qureshi continues that they don't want groups hiring 'cheap labor', as unfortunately that is what a lot of people try to do. There are monopoly institutions hiring J-1s and sidelining doctors who have been there for a long time. Dr. VanBeuge asks if there is a cap on the number of people that an organization can hire cumulatively. Tarryn states that they are able to apply for 3 physicians per year, per specialty per location. Tarryn states that there isn't currently a cap on how many J-1s can be hired overall. Dr. Qureshi states that we need have data of how many facilities hire several physicians, and what positions are we seeing the trend in, he wants to make sure people are not taking advantage of the situation. Dr. VanBeuge recommends we add to a future PCAC agenda to discuss the processes in place and if they want to make recommendations as a council.

**Member Comment:** none

**Public Comment:** none

**First Motion:** Dr. Campbell moves to approve

**Second Motion:** G. Ackerman seconds

**Motion:** Passes Unanimously

- 4. Recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Muhammad Nadeem.** Tarryn Emmerich-Choi presented a summary handout of the completed application.

**Member Comment:** none

**Public Comment:** none

**First Motion:** G. Ackerman moves to approve

**Second Motion:** Dr. Qureshi seconds

**Motion:** Passes Unanimously

5. **Recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Aiswarya Lakshmi Nandakumar.** Tarryn Emmerich-Choi presented a summary handout of the completed application.

**Member Comment:** none

**Public Comment:** none

**First Motion:** Dr. Qureshi moves to approve

**Second Motion:** G. Ackerman seconds

**Motion:** Passes Unanimously

6. **Recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Luciana Brandeo Paim Marquez.** Tarryn Emmerich-Choi presented a summary handout of the completed application. Steve Messinger asks for confirmation on the percentage of Sliding Fee Scale that is noted as 0%, and the large 52% listed as 'OTHER'. Tarryn states that in some cases the facility does not have a billing option for SFS, and they can be put into the other column for this reason. Tarryn asks if there is anyone from the facility on the call that can confirm the numbers. Christine from Cure for the Kids Foundation states that they offer a sliding fee scale, but often they have a charity care program because they are a non-profit, and often their patients qualify for different levels of charity care that are also based on a sliding fee scale, and there are often many write offs related to charity care in particular. Steve Messinger states that this makes sense, but the data does not really reflect where the benefits are going, as they are all lumped under 'other'. Tarryn adds that the numbers for Sunrise and Summerlin hospitals are currently at 0 due to them not currently having rheumatologists rounding there, and that the PCO has requested updated tables at the first compliance report in October. Dr. VanBeuge agrees that it would be nice to see clearer data, not lumped together as 'other'

**Member Comment:** none

**Public Comment:** none

**First Motion:** Dr. Qureshi moves to approve

**Second Motion:** Dr. Campbell seconds

**Motion:** Passes Unanimously

- 7. Update on the possible suspension in DPBH's support of St. Mary's ability to hire J-1 physicians for two years.** Tarryn Emmerich-Choi presented an update on the St. Mary's situation, a letter had been sent to St. Mary's reminding them of their responsibilities as an employer, the PCO has also added an internal checklist to their policies and procedures that includes whether or not a employer or facility has previously been out of compliance with the program. Not notifying the PCO within 30 days of a J-1 doctor being terminated, not submitted the twice annual compliance reports, if those are not check at the start of an application that would be a red flag in terms of should the application be put forward to the council or should it be denied during the initial review stage.

**Member Comment:** none

**Public Comment:** none

**8. Member or Public Comment**

Gerald mentions to the PCO that UNR will be presenting to their residency programs regarding 3RNET, and mentioned that it would be great if the PCO can attend to present regarding resources for the J-1 program.

**9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

## **J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Program Application Attestation**

### **Candidates Information:**

Full Name: Radhika Arya

Residency Discipline: Internal Medicine

Residency Timeframe: 06/13/2019 to 06/30/2023

Location of Residency: MedStar Health/Georgetown-  
Washington Hospital Center Program, Washington, D.C.

Fellowship/Specialty: Infectious Disease

Fellowship Timeframe: 07/01/2023 to 06/30/2025

Location of Fellowship: Stanford Univ., Palo Alto, CA

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### **Employers Information:**

Employer's Full Name: El-Salibi Infectious Diseases of Southern Nevada

Employer's Address: 825 N Gibson Rd, Suite 311, Henderson, NV 89011

Employer's Point of Contact Name: Teresa Day

Employer's Email Address: tday@idofsn.com

Employer's Phone Number: 702-776-8300 /office or 702-334-9794/cell

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### **Official Legal Representative Information:**

Law Firm Name: Badmus & Associates

Law Firm Address: 8330 Lyndon B Johnson Fwy, Ste B-1157, Dallas, TX 75243

Point of Contact Name: Benita Adams (Paralegal) or Celsa Rodriguez-Story (Attorney)

Point of Contact Email Address: benita.adams@badmuslaw.com

Point of Contact Phone Number: 214-494-8033 ext 1004 (Benita) or 214-494-8033 ext  
1003 (Celsa)

### **Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #1: El-Salibi Infectious Diseases of Southern Nevada-Reno

Practice Site #1 Address: 1021 Steamboat Parkway, Suite 120, Reno, NV 89521

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 8

Select all that apply:

- ☒ In a HPSA HPSA # 1323717372      ☒ In a MUA/MUP MUA # 02096      ☐ Flex Spot  
☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)      ☐ Tribal Health Center  
☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)      ☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

**\*For specialists, hospitalists and/or flex locations please fill out the below section of the form that pertains to you.**

**Specialist Information for site #1:**

Current specialist to patient ratio at facility: 1 provider to 76 patients  
 Optimum specialist to patient ratio: 1 provider to 196 patients  
 Current number of specialist vacancies: 0  
 Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 10 miles

**Hospitalist Information for site #1: N/A**

Current hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.  
 Optimum hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.  
 Current number of hospitalist vacancies: Current Vacancies.  
 Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

**Flex Spot Information for site #1: N/A**

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL  
 Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.  
 Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.  
 Current physician to patient ratio at facility: Current Ratio.  
 Optimum physician to patient ratio: Current Ratio.  
 Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

**Additional Practice Sites:**

**Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #2: Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center  
 Practice Site #2 Address: 235 W 6th St, Reno, NV 89503  
 Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 10  
 Select all that apply:

- ☒ In a HPSA HPSA # 1323717372      ☒ In a MUA/MUP MUA # 02096      ☐ Flex Spot  
☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)      ☐ Tribal Health Center  
☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)      ☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

**\*For specialists, hospitalists and/or flex locations please fill out the below section of the form that pertains to you.**

**SpecialistInformationforsite#2:**

Current specialist to patient ratio at facility: 8 providers to 450 patients

Optimum specialist to patient ratio: 8 providers to 800 patients

Current number of specialist vacancies: 0

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 2.2 miles

**HospitalistInformationforsite#2:** N/A

Current hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Optimum hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Current number of hospitalist vacancies: Current Vacancies.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

**FlexSpotInformationforsite#2:** N/A

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200%

FPL Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: Current Ratio.

Optimum physician to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

**\*If there are more than 2 practice sites, please add all additional practice locations with the above information, at the end of this form.\***

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Employer and Candidate, seek a letter of support from the Physician Visa Waiver Program and requests the Division of Public and Behavioral Health to forward the J-1 Visa Waiver application to the U.S. Department of State as a State Health Agency request, per DS-3035. Employer and Candidate have agreed to comply with the duties set forth in Chapter 439A of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) and to cooperate with the Physician Visa Waiver Program.

In signing below, an authorized representative of the Employer and the Candidate declares under penalty of perjury that all statements submitted with this application are true and accurate and this application complies with the requirements of NRS 439A.175 and NAC 439.730 including as follows:

**All practices sites where the Candidate will practice:**

- ☐ Are located in a federally designated Primary Care HPSA, MUA/P or a site approved by the state as a geographic exception or a flex slot (Public Law 108-441) to address the underserved;
- ☐ Accept Medicare, Medicaid assignment and Nevada Checkup;

## Additional Practice Sites:

### Practice Site Information:

Practice Site #3: Northern Nevada Health System Sierra Medical Center

Practice Site #3 Address: 6500 Longley Lane, Reno, NV 89511

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 12

Select all that apply:

- ☒ In a HPSA: HPSA #1323717372      ☐ In a MUA/MUP MUA #      ☐ Flex Spot  
☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)      ☐ Tribal Health Center  
☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)      ☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

\*For specialists, hospitalists and/or flex locations please fill out the below section of the form that pertains to you.

#### Specialist Information for site #3:

Current specialist to patient ratio at facility: 8 providers to 780 patients

Optimum specialist to patient ratio: 8 providers to 1000 patients

Current number of specialist vacancies: 0

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 8.5 miles

#### Hospitalist Information for site #3: N/A

Current hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Optimum hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Current number of hospitalist vacancies: Current Vacancies.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

#### Flex Spot Information for site #3: N/A

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL

Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: Current Ratio.

Optimum physician to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.



## Additional Practice Sites:

### Practice Site Information:

Practice Site #4: Northern Nevada Medical Center

Practice Site #4 Address: 2385 East Prater Way, Suite 101, Sparks, NV 89434

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 10

Select all that apply:

- ☒ In a HPSA: HPSA #1323717372    ☒ In a MUA/MUP: MUP #02096    ☐ Flex Spot  
☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)    ☐ Tribal Health Center  
☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)    ☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

\*For specialists, hospitalists and/or flex locations please fill out the below section of the form that pertains to you.

#### Specialist Information for site #4:

Current specialist to patient ratio at facility: 8 providers to 780 patients

Optimum specialist to patient ratio: 8 providers to 1000 patients

Current number of specialist vacancies: 0

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 8.5 miles

#### Hospitalist Information for site #4: N/A

Current hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Optimum hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Current number of hospitalist vacancies: Current Vacancies.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

#### Flex Spot Information for site #4: N/A

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL

Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: Current Ratio.

Optimum physician to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

# IDOF SN - Steamboat

<b>Time period of report:</b> 1/01/2024 - 12/31/2024		
	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	186	31.13
Medicaid visits	160	26.93
NV Check-up	134	22.89
Sliding Fee Scale	0	.01
Indigent/Charity	0	
Other - Not listed above	103	17.34
<b>Totals</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists:</b>		
<b>*Time period of report:</b>	12 month	
<b>*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type</b>	IDOF SN	



Please provide the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	1
# of PAs by FTE	0
# of APNs by FTE	2



**Saint Mary's Regional  
Medical Center**

Time period of report:		
	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	1 308	24
Medicaid visits	2 096	39
NV Check-up	NA	
Sliding Fee Scale	NA	
Indigent/Charity	NA	
Other - Not listed above	Self Pay	259
	Other	1 754
Totals	5,417	100
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists:</b>		
<b>*Time period of report:</b>		Past 12 Months (System wide)
<b>*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type</b>		4,103 (System wide)

- ☒ Please provide the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	481
# of PAs by FTE	62
# of APNs by FTE	50

<b>Time period of report:</b> 2024		
	<b>Total # of visits for 12 months</b>	<b>% of visits per 12 months</b>
Medicare visits	2845	39%
Medicaid visits	1265	17%
NV Check-up	NA	NA
Sliding Fee Scale	NA	NA
Indigent/Charity	183	3.0%
Other - Not listed above	2981	41%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7274</b>	
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists:</b>		
<b>*Time period of report:</b>	2024	
<b>*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type</b>	1744 Sierra Medical Center	

☐ Please provide the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	4
# of PAs by FTE	
# of APNs by FTE	4

<b>Time period of report:</b>		
	<b>Total # of visits for 12 months</b>	<b>% of visits per 12 months</b>
Medicare visits	3608	65%
Medicaid visits	658	12%
NV Check-up	NA	NA
Sliding Fee Scale	NA	NA
Indigent/Charity	191	3.0%
Other - Not listed above	1107	20%
<b>Totals</b>	5564	
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists:</b>		
<b>*Time period of report:</b>	2024	
<b>*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type</b>	1308 Northern Nevada Medical Center	

- ☐ Please provide the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	4
# of PAs by FTE	
# of APNs by FTE	4



February 10, 2025

Primary Care Office  
4150 Technology Way, Suite 300  
Carson City, NV 89706-2009

RE: Nevada State 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Application  
By El-Salibi Infectious Diseases of Southern Nevada  
On Behalf of Radhika Arya, M.D.

Dear Waiver Coordinator:

We respectfully request your assistance in processing a waiver from the two-year foreign residency requirement for a physician, Dr. Radhika Arya, who will be practicing as a Physician (Infectious Disease) with our organization, El-Salibi Infectious Diseases of Southern Nevada, 825 N. Gibson Road, Suite 311, Henderson, Nevada 89011.

Dr. Arya will practice at **El Salibi Infectious Disease of Southern Nevada Reno Office**, mailing and physical address of 1021 Steamboat Parkway, Suite 120, Reno, Nevada 89521 (HPSA ID 1323717372, MUP ID 02096), D: 720-776-8300 F: 702-776-8408, [tday@idofsn.com](mailto:tday@idofsn.com)  
Teresa Day ; **Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center**, mailing and physical address of 235 W 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Reno, Nevada 89503 (HPSA ID 1323717372, MUP ID 02096), D: 775-799-7810 F: 775-799-7885 Medical Staff Director: Robert Cornwell D: 775-770-6146 F: 775-770-3655 [rcornwell@primehealth.com](mailto:rcornwell@primehealth.com) ; **Northern Nevada Health System Sierra Medical Center**, mailing and physical address of 6500 Longley Lane, Reno, Nevada 89511 (HPSA ID 1323717372), D: 775-799-7810 F: 775-799-7885 [Tamela.taylor@UHSinc.com](mailto:Tamela.taylor@UHSinc.com); and **Northern Nevada Medical Center**, mailing and physical address of 2385 East Prater Way, Suite 101, Sparks, Nevada 89434 (HPSA ID 1323717372, MUP ID 02096), D: 775-424-1067 F: 775-356-4525 [Nichole.Jensen@uhsinc.com](mailto:Nichole.Jensen@uhsinc.com)

This letter serves as our request that the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) act as an Interested Government Agency to recommend a waiver for the J-1 Physician, Dr. Arya.

**Brief Description of Important Unmet Health Care Needs** Dr. Arya will address critical unmet healthcare needs in the designated shortage area by providing essential medical services to underserved populations. By focusing on preventive care, chronic disease management, and acute treatment, Dr. Arya will improve health outcomes and reduce hospitalizations. Additionally, implementing telemedicine, community outreach programs, and collaborating with local health organizations will enhance accessibility and efficiency in patient care. Through these efforts, Dr. Arya will bridge healthcare gaps, ensuring comprehensive and equitable medical services for the community.

### **The Applicant and Position**

Dr. Arya is fully qualified for this position. In 2017 she received her medical degree from Kasturba Medical College, Manipal University, Manipal, India. In 2023 she completed an internal medicine residency with MedStar Health-Georgetown/Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D.C. She is currently completing an infectious disease fellowship with Stanford University, Palo Alto, California with an anticipated completion date of June 2025. She has passed all examinations for the ECFMG and USMLE as required by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and has applied for her Nevada medical license. Dr. Arya Jha will provide at least forty (40) hours per week of primary care (internist). Her duties will be to diagnose, treat, and help prevent infections caused by microorganisms like bacteria, viruses, fungi, and protozoa.

We hope that you will give every consideration to this request. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact our attorney, Celsa J. Rodriguez-Story, 214-494-8033, ext. 1003

Sincerely,



Radi D. El Salibi, M.D.

Owner



# **RADHIKA ARYA, MBBS**

## **TRAINING & EDUCATION**

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2023-2025	<b>Clinical Fellow, Infectious Diseases</b> Clinician Educator Track, Concentration in Antimicrobial Stewardship and Medical Education Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA
2022-2023	<b>Chief Resident, Internal Medicine</b> MedStar Health-Georgetown/Washington Hospital Center Washington, DC
2019-2022	<b>Resident, Internal Medicine</b> MedStar Health-Georgetown/Washington Hospital Center Washington, DC
2011-2017	<b>Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)</b> Kasturba Medical College, Manipal University, Manipal, India

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

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2019	<b>Junior Resident, Department of Medicine</b> Sri Balaji Action Medical Institute, New Delhi, India
2017-2018	<b>Clinical Associate</b> ASRA Center for Chest Disease, Allergy and Sleep Disorders, New Delhi, India

## **LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS**

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2025-present	<b>Teaching assistant, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases I course</b> Stanford University
2025-present	<b>ID Education Fellow for Graduate Medical Education</b> Stanford Health Care
2024-present	<b>Fellow representative, SHEA Education Subcommittee</b>
2023-present	<b>Fellow member, Antimicrobial Safety and Sustainability Program</b> Stanford University
2023-2024	<b>Fellow member, Resident Safety Council</b> Stanford Health Care
2022-2023	<b>Chief Resident, Internal Medicine</b> MedStar Health-Georgetown/Washington Hospital Center
2022-2023	<b>Resident member, Rapid Response Committee</b> MedStar Washington Hospital Center
2012-2016	<b>Student member and interim chief, Student Research Forum</b> Kasturba Medical College, Manipal

## **ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP EXPERIENCE**

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### Stanford Health Care

2024-present	<b>Antimicrobial Stewardship concentration, Stanford Health Care</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dedicated 24 weeks with the Antimicrobial Stewardship team at Stanford Health Care, developing skills such as prospective audit and feedback, disseminating institutional guidelines and collaborating with Pharmacists and allied health care personnel</li></ul>
2024-present	<b>Course reviewer, Stanford University School of Medicine</b>

- Reviewed and edited clinical cases for online CME course “To Prescribe or Not To Prescribe? Antibiotics and Outpatient Infections”, available internationally through Stanford University

2024-present **Fellow representative, SHEA Education subcommittee**

- Worked with faculty across USA to develop and review online educational modules on antimicrobial stewardship and infection prevention, available globally through SHEA

2023-present **Antimicrobial Stewardship “Handshake” Rounds- Stanford Health Care**

- Led multidisciplinary rounds between antimicrobial stewardship and critical care teams to optimize antibiotics in the ICU
- Created and disseminated weekly “pearls” to educate teams on evidence-based antimicrobial use

#### MedStar Health-Georgetown/Washington Hospital Center

2021-2023 **Resident member, Pharmacy and therapeutics committee**

**Resident member, Infection control committee**

- Part of multidisciplinary committee, involved in antimicrobial stewardship and infection prevention, review of hospital wide policies for medication safety and approval of new antimicrobials across 10 hospitals within the MedStar Health system.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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2024-present **Medical Education concentration, Stanford Health Care**

- Designated fellow for graduate medical education and teaching assistant for medical microbiology. Delivered case conferences, journal clubs, and created educational content for trainees and professionals.

2024-present **Associate Editor, theMednet.org**

- Created and reviewed weekly questions leading to discussion of experiential knowledge and insights on best practices in infectious diseases by expert faculty nationally.

2022-2023 **Resident morning report and Journal Club moderator, MedStar Washington Hospital Center**

- Organized and led interactive weekly clinical case-based morning report for over 100 internal medicine interns and residents as a chief resident. Moderated monthly journal club sessions and facilitated collaboration between residents and faculty in various internal medicine specialties

2021 **Night Float Curriculum Development, MedStar Washington Hospital Center**

- Developed a program-wide curriculum on “Sepsis” which was used by residents during their night float rotation as part of a resident run didactic conference

#### Educational Certificates and Programs

2025-present **Essentials of Clinical Research 2025, Stanford University**

2024-present **Stanford Health Professions Education and Scholarship (SHAPES) Honors Scholars Certificate Program**

2024-2025 **ID Digital Institute, Class of 2024**

- International course focused on developing foundational skills and knowledge to create digital medical education content in infectious diseases

2021-2022 **Medical Educators course, Georgetown University**

- Completed a longitudinal course at Georgetown University, honing skills in presentation design, chalk talk delivery, and learner evaluation and feedback

2021 **Point of Care Ultrasound Workshop, MedStar Washington Hospital Center, Washington DC**

#### Invited lectures:

11/21/24 **Medicine noon conference: “Principles of Antimicrobial Stewardship”**

10/23/24 **Orthopedic Grand Rounds: “Oral antibiotic failure in enterococcal prosthetic joint infection”**

8/22/24	ID Grand Rounds: "Challenging CNS infections"
4/25/24	ID Grand Rounds: "Syphilis: Key updates and challenges"
1/11/24	Microbiology Plate rounds: "Invasive candidiasis"
7/20/23	Microbiology Plate rounds: "The hypermucoid invader: <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> "
2/22/21	Medicine Grand Rounds: "Coccidioidomycosis"

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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2022	<b>MedStar Health/Georgetown University Virtual Research Exhibition</b> <b>First Prize: Oral presentation</b> Title: Postoperative Leukocytosis Trends in Ventricular Assist Device Implantation and Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery
2019	<b>iCOMPARE National Innovation Tournament, University of Pennsylvania</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awarded Most Socially Inclusive idea for "Ancillary Service Rotation"</li> <li>• Awarded One of 10 best ideas for "Pill Card"</li> </ul>
2015	<b>First place, Preventive and Social Medicine</b> Final MBBS Part-I University Exam
2014	<b>First place, Forensic Medicine</b> Second MBBS University Exam
2012-2016	<b>Certificate of Merit for excellent academic performance (ranked within top 6 of 250 students)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ranked sixth in Final MBBS –II examination (2016)</li> <li>• Ranked third in Final MBBS- I examination (2014)</li> <li>• Ranked fourth in Second MBBS examination (2013)</li> <li>• Ranked fifth in First MBBS examination (2012)</li> </ul>
2011-2016	<b>Merit based full scholarship for MBBS</b> Kasturba Medical College, Manipal for outstanding performance in the All-India Admission test

## PUBLICATIONS

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1. Arya R, Goldner BS, Shorr AF. Novel agents in development for multidrug-resistant Gram-negative infections: potential new options facing multiple challenges. *Curr Opin Infect Dis.* 2022 Dec 1;35(6):589-594. doi: 10.1097/QCO.0000000000000885. Epub 2022 Oct 7. PMID: 36206150.
2. Barbhaya D, Franco S, Gandhi K, Arya R et al. Characteristics and Outcomes of COVID-19 Infection from an Urban Ambulatory COVID-19 Clinic—Guidance for Outpatient Clinicians in Triaging Patients. *Journal of Primary Care & Community Health.* January 2021. doi:[10.1177/21501327211017016](https://doi.org/10.1177/21501327211017016)

### Non-Peer Reviewed publications:

Arya R., Thottacherry E. Diagnostic workup of Native Vertebral Osteomyelitis: A chalk talk (IDSA MedEd Community of Practice)

### Submitted, under review:

Arya R., Shah N. et al. Postoperative leukocytosis trends in Ventricular Assist Device Implantation and Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery

### In preparation:

Arya R, Furukawa D. Coccidioidomycosis: A case series evaluating bone and joint involvement

## PRESENTATIONS

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1. Arya R., Normal S., Da'as F., Ramdeen S. Effect of Antifungal Stewardship on Micafungin Prescribing Practices in Intensive Care Units of a Tertiary Care Hospital. Poster presentation, SHEA Spring 2023

2. **Arya R., Sallam T., Pindiprolu S.** A House Staff Led Quality Improvement Project to Reduce Daily Inpatient Laboratory Testing. Poster presentation, Academic Internal Medicine Week 2023
3. **Arya R., Shah N. et al.** Postoperative leukocytosis trends in Ventricular Assist Device Implantation and Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery.
  - Poster presentation, American Society of Artificial Internal Organs, 2022
  - Oral presentation, MedStar Health/Georgetown University Virtual Research Exhibition, 2022
4. **Manjani L., Desai N., Kohli A., Arya R. et al.** Effects of acetaminophen on outcomes in patients with COVID 19 infection. Poster presentation, CHEST Virtual Meeting, 2021
5. **Arya R., Sloan E., Majumdar A.** Cerebral Toxoplasmosis presenting as Facial Paralysis in HIV-positive Patient. Poster presentation, MedStar Health Research Symposium, 2021
6. **Arya R., Tran J. et al.** Healthcare Workers with COVID-19 infection: Experience from a Designated COVID-19 Clinic. Poster presentation, ID Week Virtual Meeting, 2020

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

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2023	<b>SHEA Primer on Healthcare Epidemiology, Infection Control &amp; Antimicrobial Stewardship</b>
2022-2023	<b>IDSA Core Basic and Advanced Antimicrobial Stewardship Curriculum for Fellows</b>
2023	<b>CITI Program Course</b>
2023-2025	<b>ACLS/BLS Certification</b>

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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2023 - present	Member, Society for Hospital Epidemiology of America
2022 - present	Member, Infectious Diseases Society of America
2018 - present	Member, American College of Physicians

## BOARDS AND LICENSURE

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### BOARD

American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM)	2022
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### LICENSURE

CA Physician and Surgeon License	2023 - Present
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## REFERENCES

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1. **Brian Blackburn, MD**  
Clinical Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases), Stanford Health Care  
Program Director of Infectious Diseases Fellowship  
[brianb1@stanford.edu](mailto:brianb1@stanford.edu)
2. **Marisa Holubar, MD**  
Clinical Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases), Stanford Health Care  
Director of Antimicrobial Stewardship rack, Infectious Diseases Fellowship  
Medical Director, Stanford Antimicrobial Safety and Sustainability Program  
[mholubar@stanford.edu](mailto:mholubar@stanford.edu)
3. **Sailaja Pindiprolu, MD**  
Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency  
MedStar Washington Hospital Center, Washington DC  
[Sailaja.Pindiprolu@medstar.net](mailto:Sailaja.Pindiprolu@medstar.net)
4. **Elizabeth Thottacherry, MD**  
Clinical Assistant Professor (Infectious Diseases), Stanford Health Care  
[ethottac@stanford.edu](mailto:ethottac@stanford.edu)

## **J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Program Application Attestation**

### **Candidates Information:**

Full Name: Dr. Mohab Mahmoud Ahmed Khalil Elmohr.

Residency Discipline: Diagnostic Radiology.

Residency Timeframe: 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2024

Location of Residency: Baylor College of Medicine, Texas.

Fellowship/Specialty: Interventional Radiology.

Fellowship Timeframe: 07/01/2024 to 06/30/2025

Location of Fellowship: Massachusetts General Hospital, Massachusetts.

### **Employer Information:**

Employer's Full Name: Radiology Specialists Ltd. d/b/a Red Rock Radiology Associates.

Employer's Address: 7130 Smoke Ranch Rd., Suite 101, Las Vegas, NV 89128.

Employer's Point of Contact Name: Diane Hollings.

Employer's Email Address: diane.hollings@radpartners.com

Employer's Phone Number: 702-942-4117.

### **Official Legal Representative Information:**

Law Firm Name: Ice Miller LLP.

Law Firm Address: 250 West St., Columbus, OH, 43215

Point of Contact Name: Kenneth Robinson.

Point of Contact Email Address: kenneth.robinson@icemiller.com.

Point of Contact Phone Number: 614-462-2280.

### **Practice Site Information :**

Practice Site #1: Mountain View Hospital.

Practice Site #1 Address: 3100 N. Tenaya Way.

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 40.

Select all that apply:

☒ In a HPSA 1321146138

☐ In a MUA/MUP MUA #

☐ Flex Spot

☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)

☐ Tribal Health Center

☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)

☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

If using a Flex Spot (non HPSA): N/A

**Flex Spot Information for site #1:**

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: Current Ratio.

Optimum physician to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

**Specialist/Hospitalist Information for site #1:**

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: 1:53 patients.

Optimum physician to patient ratio: 1:32 patients.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 6.9 miles.

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**Additional Practice Sites:**

**Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #2: Sunrise Hospital.

Practice Site #2 Address: 3186 Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89128.

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 40.

Select all that apply:

☒ In a HPSA HPSA #1328484648

☒ In a MUA/MUP MUA # 07866

☐ Flex Spot

☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)

☐ Tribal Health Center

☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)

☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

**Flex Spot Information for site #2:**

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL

Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

**Specialist/Hospitalist Information for site #2:**

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: 1:98 patients.

Optimum physician to patient ratio: 1:32 patients.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 4 miles.

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

**\*If there are more than 2 practice sites, please add all additional practice locations with the above information, at the end of this form.\***



## **Additional Information**

Page 2, Additional Practice Sites:

### **Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #3: Red Rock Radiology

Practice Site #3 Address: 7130 Smoke Ranch Rd., Suite 101, Las Vegas, NV 89128

Number of Hours Candidate Will Practice at Site Per Week: 40

☒ In a HPSA (HPSA #: 1321146138)

☐ Rural Clinic

☐ In a MUA/MUP

☐ Flex Spot

☐ Tribal Health Center

☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

### **Flex Spot Information for Site #3:**

Percentage of population serviced at or below 200% of the federal poverty line: N/A

Wait times for serving this population: N/A

### **Specialist/Hospitalist Information for Site #3:**

Current physician to patient ratio: Information Unavailable (# of Radiologists: 24)

Optimum Physician to Patient Ratio: Information Unavailable

Approximate Distance to Nearest Provider of the Same Specialty: < 1 mile<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This out-patient Radiology practice site is located less than one mile from Mountain View Hospital.



**Mountain View Hospital:**

Time Period of Report: Q2 2024-Q1 2025		
	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	82,886	46.85%
Medicaid visits	50,467	28.53%
NV Check-Up		
Sliding Fee Scale	264	0.15%
Indigent/Charity		
Other (not listed above)	43,295	24.47%
Totals	176,912	100%

**Red Rock Radiology:**

Time Period of Report: Q2 2024-Q1 2025		
	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	3,234	43.43%
Medicaid visits	520	6.98%
NV Check-Up		
Sliding Fee Scale	85	1.14%
Indigent/Charity		
Other (not listed above)	3,608	48.45%
Totals	7,265	100%

**Sunrise Hospital:**

Time Period of Report: Q2 2024-Q1 2025		
	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	100,509	29.25%
Medicaid visits	157,806	45.93%
NV Check-Up		
Sliding Fee Scale	2,999	0.87%
Indigent/Charity		
Other (not listed above)	82,270	23.95%
Totals	343,584	100%



7130 Smoke Ranch Road  
Las Vegas, NV 89128  
(702) 962-7770

May 7, 2025

Primary Care Office  
4150 Technology Way, Suite 300  
Carson City, NV 89706-2009

**Re: J-1 Visa Waiver Recommendation Application**

**Applicant: Dr. Mohab Mahmoud Ahmed Khalil Elmohr**  
**Case No: 1953604**

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is written in support of the above-referenced J-1 Visa Waiver Recommendation Application filed by Radiology Specialists LTD d/b/a Red Rock Radiology Associates ("Red Rock Radiology") on behalf of Dr. Mohab Mahmoud Ahmed Khalil Elmohr ("Dr. Elmohr"), a national of Egypt, subject to the J-1 two-year foreign residency requirement. Dr. Elmohr is currently completing his Fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts in J-1 status. He is subject to the two-year foreign residence obligation pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act Section 212(e). Red Rock Radiology requests that the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) act as "Interested Government Agency," to recommend a waiver for Dr. Elmohr.

#### **About Red Rock Radiology**

Red Rock Radiology is a premier diagnostic imaging center. Today, the practice comprises of more than 25 radiologists together with dozens of support staff. Red Rock Radiology operates a diagnostic imaging facility and provides radiology services for 2 area hospitals.

Red Rock Radiology is a subsidiary of Radiology Partners, Inc., a national radiology practice founded in 2012 with the mission of transforming radiology for radiologists, radiology practices, hospitals, health systems, and patients and families. We are the leading on-site radiology practice in multiple counties across the country with an experienced healthcare management team with a proven ability to scale and run a nationwide operation. We employ over 3,800 radiologists in all 50 states. We operate over 130 imaging centers around the country and partner with over 3,400 hospitals, urgent care centers, and other healthcare facilities to provide best-in-class patient care. On average, our radiologists manage over 50 million cases per year.

We partner with hospitals, clinics, and imaging centers to provide consistent and exceptional radiology support to deliver high-quality care. We offer 24/7 coverage by radiologists in a broad range of subspecialty care. We recruit, vet, and employ top-tier radiologists for placement at our hospital partner locations. Accordingly, we now seek to employ Dr. Elmohr to provide service to Red Rock Radiology's imaging center, as well as to two area hospitals. Dr. Elmohr's expertise is needed to provide Radiology services to the residents of Clark County, Nevada and surrounding underserved communities.





7130 Smoke Ranch Road  
Las Vegas, NV 89128  
(702) 962-7770

Below is the information requested about Red Rock Radiology as set forth in the Nevada Primary Care Office's Conrad State 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program Application Instructions:

- Name of Employment Site: Red Rock Radiology
- Physical Address: Address: 7130 Smoke Ranch Rd., Suite 101, Las Vegas, NV 89128
- Mailing Address: 2020 Palomino Ln., Suite 100, Las Vegas, NV 89106
- Name and Title of Contact Person: Jaclyn Ducharme, Director, Human Resources
- HPSA ID: 1321146138
- Phone Number: 702-759-8787
- Fax Number: 702-942-4135
- Email Address of Contact Person: [Jaclyn.ducharme@radpartners.com](mailto:Jaclyn.ducharme@radpartners.com)

In addition to performing services for Red Rock Radiology, Dr. Elmohr will perform services at the following additional worksites:

#### Mountain View Hospital

- Address: 3100 N. Tenaya Way, Las Vegas, NV 89128
- HPSA ID: 1321146138

#### Sunrise Hospital

- Address: 3186 Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89128
- HPSA ID: 1328484648
- MUA: 07866

### Service Need

The American College of Radiology (ACR), the professional medical society representing 40,000 diagnostic radiologists, radiation oncologists, and interventional radiologists, notes that there is "a palpable shortage of radiologists in practices and academic departments across the United States, with more than 1,900 physician positions" unfilled and currently active on the ACR job board.<sup>1</sup> This shortage is felt acutely at Red Rock Radiology. Further evidence of Red Rock Radiology's challenges in finding qualified, interested candidates for the position of Interventional Radiologist is set forth in the recruitment letter, and evidence attached thereto, included at **TAB D**.

With respect to patient care, a radiologist shortage results in delays in imaging services, creates longer worklists for radiology staff, and risks burnout for the few radiologists carrying the weight of the radiology needs for their health care facilities. While the need for radiologists has grown significantly across the country, radiology residency programs have not similarly increased trainee output.

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<sup>1</sup> American College of Radiology, "How Will We Solve Our Radiology Workforce Shortage?". <https://www.acr.org/Practice-Management-Quality-Informatics/ACR-Bulletin/Articles/March-2024/How-Will-We-Solve-Our-Radiology-Workforce-Shortage#:~:text=As%20the%20need%20for%20radiology,training%20programs%20has%20fallen%20behind.> (March 1, 2024).



According to a 2022 Report by the University of Nevada, Reno's School of Medicine, in 2022, there were approximately 15,000 people per Diagnostic Radiologist in Nevada.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, roughly 390,000 Clark County residents lack health care coverage (representing about 10% of the County's population).<sup>3</sup>

Every sector within the healthcare field relies on radiology: surgery, pediatrics, obstetrics, oncology, trauma-response, emergency medicine, etc. Radiologists utilize their highly specialized training to take pictures or images of organs and tissue and then interpret those pictures to find images that evaluate and support a diagnosis. Radiologists use imaging results to identify a wide range of problems from broken bones to heart condition, blood clots, and cancer. A radiologist's recommended diagnosis is referred to a clinical physician to create a course of treatment.

Early diagnosis saves lives. Needless to say, a radiologist shortage which creates delays in imaging services increases the amount of time a diagnosis is identified which negatively impacts patient outcomes, sometimes with fatal consequences.

### **Dr. Elmohr's Qualifications and Terms of Employment**

Dr. Elmohr is well-qualified for the Interventional Radiologist Physician position with Red Rock Radiology. He obtained his Medical Degree from Ain Shams University Faculty of Medicine in Cairo, Egypt in 2015, a degree that he earned with honors. He entered the United States as J-1 physician in 2017 upon acceptance of a research position at MD Anderson's Cancer Center in Houston, Texas in the Division of Diagnostic Imaging. After completing his research position at MD Anderson, in 2019, Dr. Elmohr completed a one-year Internal Medicine Internship with the University of Alabama Medical Center in Montgomery, Alabama. He then returned to Texas and completed a four-year residency in Diagnostic Radiology at the Baylor College of Medicine, which he completed in 2024. Dr. Elmohr currently is completing a one-year Independent Interventional Radiology Residency at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. He is also simultaneously serving in the role of Clinical Fellow in Radiology at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Elmohr's unique blend of professional experience, which includes not only practical training but also research, will make him an asset to Red Rock Radiology and the Nevada medical community. A copy of Dr. Elmohr's Curriculum Vitae is included at **TAB G**. His employment agreement is included at **TAB I**.

Dr. Elmohr will practice under the specialty discipline of Interventional Radiology. In this position, he will perform minor invasive radiology procedures, including the following: magnetic resonance imaging, ultrasound, mammography, computed tomography (CT), interventional radiology, interventional oncology, cardiac catheterization and PE scanning. More specifically, his duties will include using imaging technologies and nuclear medicine to diagnose and evaluate illnesses and injuries inside the body, reviewing MRI studies for referring physicians and/or orthopedic surgeons, interpreting additional plain film and ultrasound evaluations as needed, and performing general radiology examinations.

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<sup>2</sup> University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, "Physician Workforce in Nevada: A Chartbook,"  
<http://www.nevadapublichealthinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/22-PWTN-Chartbook-FINAL-1-18-22.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> Southern Nevada Health District, "New Report Outlines Public Health Goals for Clark County,"  
<https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/news-release/new-report-outlines-public-health-goals-for-clark-county/>.





7130 Smoke Ranch Road  
Las Vegas, NV 89128  
(702) 962-7770

Dr. Elmohr will begin employment on August 1, 2025 (or as soon as practicable thereafter), and within ninety (90) days of receipt of the waiver. It bears repeating that Dr. Elmohr is one of an elite group of individuals providing radiology services in the United States. The combination of his education and professional experience is a rarity in our field and the opportunity to utilize his skillset to serve the patients of Clark County and surrounding areas, will undoubtedly positively impact our community.

### **Sliding Fee Scale**

Included at **Tab A** of this application is evidence of Red Rock Radiology's sliding fee scale. This sliding fee scale and notice that Red Rock Radiology accepts patients regardless of ability to pay is posted in the waiting rooms of the locations from which Dr. Elmohr will practice or is provided to each patient in writing at each of these locations.

### **Conclusion**

The enclosed application on behalf of Dr. Elmohr follows the requirements of the Nevada Primary Care Office, Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program. It is in the public interest to have Dr. Elmohr remain in the United States and provide essential, life-saving, medical services to the residents of Las Vegas and surrounding communities.

We, thereby request, a favorable recommendation from the Nevada Primary Care Office to the U.S. Department of State supporting our application for waiver of the two-year foreign residency requirement on behalf of Dr. Elmohr.

Thank you in advance for your prompt processing of this submission. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Ducharme  
Director, Human Resources  
Radiology Partners  
Radiology Specialists Ltd. d/b/a Red Rock Radiology Associates

**Mohab M. Elmohr, M.D.**

Interventional Radiology Fellow  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Harvard Medical School

Contact Information

Business Address

Phone Number

Personal Email

Education

Fellowship

07/24 – 06/25

**Massachusetts General Hospital** – Boston, MA  
Independent Interventional Radiology Residency

Residency

07/20 – 06/24

**Baylor College of Medicine** – Houston, TX  
Diagnostic Radiology Residency  
Early Specialization in Interventional Radiology (ESIR)  
Distinguished Radiology Resident Educational Track (DIRRECT)

Internship

07/19 – 06/20

**University of Alabama Medical Center** – Montgomery, AL  
Preliminary Year Internal Medicine Internship

Medical School

09/09 – 12/15

**Ain Shams University Faculty of Medicine** – Cairo, Egypt  
MD, Excellent with honors

Board Certification

06/23

**Board Eligible** – Diagnostic Radiology (Passed CORE)

### Medical Licensure

<b>State</b>	<b>License Number</b>	<b>Issued Date</b>	<b>Expiration Date</b>	<b>Limited</b>
Nevada	25365	03/14/2024	06/30/2025	No
Massachusetts	3015750	03/06/2024	06/30/2025	Yes
Texas	BP10073476	07/01/2020	06/30/2024	Yes

### Professional Experience

#### Postgraduate Clinical Experience

03/16 – 02/17      **Ain Shams University Hospital** – Cairo, Egypt  
Internship, required for medical school graduation

#### Research Experience

10/18 – 06/19      **MD Anderson Cancer Center** – Houston, TX  
Division of Diagnostic Imaging  
Department of Imaging Physics  
Research Assistant II

04/18 – 09/18      **MD Anderson Cancer Center** – Houston, TX  
Division of Diagnostic Imaging  
Department of Abdominal Imaging  
Research Intern

07/14 – 09/14      **Medical University of Łódź** – Łódź, Poland  
Department of Orthopedics and Pediatric Orthopedics  
Research Intern

### Leadership and Committee Memberships

2022 – 2024      **Baylor College of Medicine** – Houston, TX  
Department of Radiology  
AI Innovation Hub  
Chair

2022 – 2024      **Baylor College of Medicine** – Houston, TX  
Department of Radiology  
Program Evaluation Committee  
Resident Member

2019 – Present      **American College of Radiology**



	LI-RADS® – Outreach and Education Working Group Resident Member
2019 – Present	<b>Society of Abdominal Radiology</b> Hepatocellular Carcinoma Diagnosis Disease-Focused Panel Resident Member
2014 – 2017	<b>Egyptian Medical Students' Association</b> – Cairo, Egypt Scientific Committee Co-Chair
2013 – 2017	<b>Ain Shams Medical Students Research Association</b> – Cairo, Egypt Fundraising Committee Chair

#### Honors and Awards

2023	<b>AΩA Membership</b> Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society Beta Texas Chapter – Baylor College of Medicine
2023	<b>Texas Radiological Society Scholarship</b> Society of Imaging Informatics in Medicine SIIM–ACR Data Science Summit 2023
2022	<b>Certificate of Merit</b> Radiological Society of North America Conference
2021	<b>Distinguished Reviewer</b> Abdominal Radiology Journal
2020	<b>Certificate of Merit</b> Radiological Society of North America Conference
2020	<b>Terry Hale Intern of the Year Award</b> The University of Alabama at Birmingham
2020	<b>Merit Award</b> Society of Abdominal Radiology Annual Scientific Meeting
2019	<b>Cum Laude</b> Radiological Society of North America Conference

2019	<b>Magna Cum Laude</b> Advances in Teaching and Learning Conference
2018	<b>Certificate of Merit</b> Radiological Society of North America Conference

### Publications and Presentations

#### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- **Social Determinants of Health Framework to Identify and Reduce Barriers to Imaging in Marginalized Communities**  
Elmohr, M.M., Javed, Z., Dubey, P., Jordan, J.E., Shah, L., Nasir, K., Rohren, E.M., and Lincoln, C.M. Radiology. 2024, February. PMID: 38376404. Pub Status: Published. DOI: 10.1148/radiol.223097.
- **Understanding the Role of Radiologists in Complex Treatment Decisions for Patients with Hepatocellular Carcinoma**  
Kamal, O., Horvat, N., Arora, S., Chaudhry, H., Elmohr, M.M., Khanna, L., Nepal, P.S., Wungjramirun, M., Nandwana, S.B., Shenoy-Bhangle, A.S., Lee, J., Kielar, A., Marks, R., Elsayes, K.M., and Fung, A. Abdominal Radiology. 2023, September. PMID: 37715846. Pub Status: Published. DOI: 10.1007/s00261-023-04033-6.
- **Multimodality annotated hepatocellular carcinoma data set including pre-and post-TACE with imaging segmentation**  
Moawad, A.W., Morshid, A., Khalaf, A., Elmohr, M.M., Hazle, J., Fuentes, D., Badawy, M., Kaseb, A.O., Hassan, M., Mahvash, A., Szklaruk, J., Qayyum, A., Abusaif, A., Bennett, W., Nolan, T., Camp, C., and Elsayes K.M. Scientific Data. 2023, January. PMID: 36653372. 2023 Jan 18;10(1):33. Pub Status: Published. DOI: 10.1038/s41597-023-01928-3.
- **Liver Imaging Reporting and Data System Comprehensive Guide: MR Imaging Edition**  
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- **Pitfalls, Pseudolesions, and Variants in Adrenal Imaging**  
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#### Oral Presentations

- **Dissemination of Hepatocellular Carcinoma Diagnosis Guidelines using Teaching the Teachers method**

Elmohr M.M., Jaeger P.I., Rohren S.A., Kielar A.Z., Chernyak V., Sirlin C.B., Elsayes K.M. Society of Abdominal Radiology 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting and Educational Course, Maui, HI.

- **Artificial Intelligence and Liver Segmentation**

Elmohr M.M., Fuentes D., Palmquist S., Moawad A.W., Hazle, J.D. and Elsayes K.M. Radiological Society of North America 2019 Conference, Chicago, IL.

- **Adrenal Imaging in the Era of Radiomics: Current Indications and Future Perspective**

Elmohr M.M., Fuentes D., Blair K.J., Elbanan, M., Ahmed, A.A. and Elsayes K.M. Radiological Society of North America meeting 2019 Conference, Chicago, IL.

- **Machine learning-based texture analysis for differentiation of large adrenal cortical tumors on CT**

Elmohr, M.M., Fuentes, D., Habra, M.A., Bhosale, P.R., Qayyum, A.A., Gates, E.D., Morshid, A.I., Hazle, J.D., and Elsayes, K.M. Global Academic Programs 2019 conference, Houston, TX.

#### Scientific and Educational Abstracts

- **Spectrum of Findings after Radiation-Based Therapy in the Liver**

Altinmakas, E., Fowler, K.J., Elmohr M.M., Fung, A., Kamal, O., Bashir, M.F., Dogan, H., Marks, R.M., Borhani, A.A., Lalani, T.A.K., Do, R., Gaballah, A.H., and Elsayes, K.M. Radiological Society of North America RSNA 2022 Conference, Chicago, IL.

- **Choices, Choices, Choices: What your Multidisciplinary HCC Treatment Team Needs to Know**

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- **Lipid-poor Renal Angiomyolipoma and Renal Cell Carcinoma: How to Differentiate on Imaging**

Elmohr M.M., Guccione, J., Soliman, M., Moawad, A.W., Kamel, S., and Elsayes, K.M. American Roentgen Ray Society ARRS 2021 Conference, San Diego, CA.

- **LI-RADS: Show me the evidence!**

Elmohr M.M., Fung, A., van der Pol, C., McInnes, M., Bashir, M., Lee, J., Fowler, K., Elsayes, K.M., Chernyak, V., Sirlin, C., and Tang, A. Radiological Society of North America RSNA 2020 Conference, Chicago, IL.

- **Imaging and Radiomics in Differentiating Lipid Poor Angiomyolipoma and Renal Cell Carcinoma**  
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- **Advanced Liver Imaging: Can Deep Learning Solve its Challenges?**  
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- **To Be or Not to Be: Appendicitis, as Diagnosed by Deep Learning Algorithms, Radiologists, and Residents**  
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- **Peritoneal Imaging: Rare tumors, Tumor-like conditions, and Mimics**  
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- **Liver Imaging in the Era of Artificial Intelligence: Current Indications and Future Perspective**  
Elmohr M.M., Fuentes D., Blair K.J., Moawad A.W., Hazle J., Elsayes K.M. Society of Abdominal Radiology SAR 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting and Educational Course, Maui, HI.
- **Radiomics and the Adrenal Gland: An overview**  
Elmohr M.M., Fuentes D., Blair K.J., Elbanan M, Ahmed A.A., Elsayes K.M. Society of Abdominal Radiology SAR 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting and Educational Course, Maui, HI.
- **Rare Peritoneal Tumors, Tumor-Like Conditions, and Mimics: Clinical and Imaging Clues to Diagnosis**  
Elmohr M.M., Elsayes K.M., Blair K.J., Menias C.O., Javadi S., Shaaban A.M., Lubner M. and Pickhardt P.J. Radiological Society of North America RSNA 2019 Conference, Chicago, IL.
- **Artificial Intelligence and Liver Segmentation: Current Applications and Future Directions** Elmohr M.M., Fuentes D., Palmquist S., Moawad A.W., Hazle, J.D. and Elsayes K.M. Radiological Society of North America RSNA 2019 Conference, Chicago, IL.
- **Adrenal Imaging in the Era of Radiomics: Current Indications and Future Perspective**  
Elmohr M.M., Fuentes D., Blair K.J., Elbanan, M., Ahmed, A.A. and Elsayes K.M.  
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- **Problematic Adnexal Masses: Pitfalls and Pearls on Cross-Sectional Imaging**  
Elmohr M.M., Shaaban A.M., Menias C.O., Ganeshan D.M., Jensen C.T., and Elsayes K.M.  
Radiological Society of North America RSNA 2018 Conference, Chicago, IL.
- **Pitfalls in the Diagnosis of Hepatocellular Carcinoma: User Errors in Applying LI-RADS v2018**  
Elsayes K.M., Furlan A., Elmohr M.M., Fowler K.J., Tang A., and Bashir M.R. Radiological Society of North America RSNA 2018 Conference, Chicago, IL.

Last updated  
11/28/2024

## **J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Program Application Attestation**

### **Candidates Information:**

Full Name: Sahana Durganna.

Residency Discipline: Pediatrics Residency Timeframe:  
2019 to 2022

Location of Residency: University of Florida, FL

Fellowship/Specialty: Neonatal Perinatal Medicine.

Fellowship Timeframe: 2022 to present

Location of Fellowship: Loma Linda University, CA.

### **Employers Information:**

Employer's Full Name: Pokroy Medical Group of NV, LTD d/b/a Pediatrix Medical Group of Nevada

Employer's Address: 1301 Concord Terrace, Sunrise, FL 33323

Employer's Point of Contact Name: Debra McRoberts, SVP People Services

Employer's Email Address: debra.mcroberts@pediatrix.com

Employer's Phone Number: 714-620-3002

### **Official Legal Representative Information:**

Law Firm Name: Jackson Lewis P.C.

Law Firm Address: 44 South Broadway, White Plains, NY 10601

Point of Contact Name: Otieno B. Ombokk

Point of Contact Email Address: Otieno.Ombokk@jacksonlewis.com

Point of Contact Phone Number: 914-872-6895

### **Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #1: Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center

Practice Site #1 Address: 9300 W. Sunset Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89148

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 40

Select all that apply:

☒ In a HPSA 1324377592

☐ In a MUA/MUP MUA #

☐ Flex

Spot ☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) ☐ Tribal Health Center

☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)

☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital



**If using a Flex Spot (non HPSA):**

**Flex Spot Information for site #1:**

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: Current Ratio.

Optimum physician to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

**Specialist/Hospitalist Information for site #1:**

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: 1:15

Optimum physician to patient ratio: 1:4

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 271 miles

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**Additional Practice Sites:**

**Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #2: Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center

Practice Site #2 Address: 3100 N. Tenaya Way, Las Vegas, NV 89128

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 40

Select all that apply:

☒ In a HPSA 1321146138

☐ In a MUA/MUP MUA #

☐ Flex Spot

☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)

☐ Tribal Health Center

☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)

☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

**Flex Spot Information for site #2:**

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL

Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

**Specialist/Hospitalist Information for site #2:**

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: 1:8

Optimum physician to patient ratio: 1:4

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 271 miles

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

\*If there are more than 2 practice sites, please add all additional practice locations with the above information, at the end of this form.\*

Practice Site Information:

Practice Site 3: Sunrise Children's Hospital, 3186 S. Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Number of hours candidate will practice at site per week: 40

HPSA: 1328484648

MUA/MUP: 07866

Specialist/Hospitalist Information for site #3

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: 1:7

Optimum physician to patient ratio: 1:5

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 271 miles

<b>Time period of report:</b> December 2023 to December 2024 - Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center see addendum for Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center and Sunrise Children's Hospital		
	<b>Total # of visits for 12 months</b>	<b>% of visits per 12 months</b>
Medicare visits	0	0
Medicaid visits	191	65%
NV Check-up	0	0
Sliding Fee Scale	0	0
Indigent/Charity	0	0
Other - Not listed above	102	35%
<b>Totals</b>	293	100%
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists:</b>		
<b>*Time period of report:</b>	6/1/2024 to 12/31/2024	
<b>*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type</b>	111	

☒ Please provide the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	4
# of PAs by FTE	0
# of APNs by FTE	0

☒ Specialists and hospitalists are regular participants in our program and are required to submit additional documentation **for each practice site**, as outlined below. An application for medical specialists and/or hospitalists must include documentation to justify that there is a critical need for this service in a designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), Medically Underserved Area or Population (MUA/P) or Flex slot. Information to support critical need should include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Letter of support from hospital/medical facility that outlines the number of vacancies in the specialty/hospitalist positions. Include the total number of specialists that have hospital privileges at the facility.

**SUNRISE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**  
**TABLE DOCUMENTING NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PATIENT VISITS**  
**BILLED FOR EACH CATEGORY OF PAYMENT FOR THE LAST 12-**  
**MONTH PERIOD:**

<b>Time period of report:</b> (December, 2023 to December, 2024)		
	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	0	0
Medicaid visits	912	75%
NV Check-up	0	0
Sliding Fee Scale	0	0
Indigent/Charity	0	0
Other - Not listed above	100	25%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1212</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists</b>		
<b>Time period of report:</b>	June 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	
<b>*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type</b>	450	

Total number of the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	9
# of PAs by FTE	5
# of APNs by FTE	0

**Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center**

**TABLE DOCUMENTING NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PATIENT VISITS  
BILLED FOR EACH CATEGORY OF PAYMENT FOR THE LAST 12-  
MONTH PERIOD:**

<b>Time period of report:</b> (December, 2023 to December, 2024)		
	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	0	0
Medicaid visits	138	60%
NV Check-up	0	0
Sliding Fee Scale	0	0
Indigent/Charity	0	0
Other - Not listed above	92	40%
<b>Totals</b>	230	100%
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists</b>		
<b>Time period of report:</b>	June 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	
<b>*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type</b>	100	

Total number of the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	4
# of PAs by FTE	0
# of APNs by FTE	0



March 6, 2025

Primary Care Office  
4150 Technology Way, Suite 300  
Carson City, NV 89706

Re: J-1 Visa Waiver Application of Pokroy Medical Group of Nevada Ltd. d/b/a  
Pediatrix Medical Group of Nevada  
on behalf of Dr. Sahana Durganna

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is written by Pokroy Medical Group of Nevada Ltd. d/b/a Pediatrix Medical Group of Nevada ("Pediatrix Nevada") in support of the J-1 waiver application on behalf of Dr. Sahana Durganna.

Pediatrix Nevada would like to employ Dr. Durganna in the position of Neonatologist at the following employment sites:

- Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center  
9300 W. Sunset RD, Las Vegas, NV 89148
- Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center  
3100 N. Tenaya Way, Las Vegas, NV 89128
- Sunrise Children's Hospital  
3186 S. Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

I, Gary Yup MD, am employed by Pediatrix Nevada in the position of Medical Director and I can be contacted at:

- Telephone
- fax number
- e-mail address

As Pediatrix Nevada's Medical Director responsible for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit ("NICU"), I am asking that the Nevada Division of Public & Behavioral Health act as an interested government agency and recommend a J-1 waiver for Dr. Durganna. Our medical practice provides 24/365 pediatric critical care at Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center, Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center, and Sunrise Children's Hospital's NICU. If the waiver is granted, Dr. Durganna would be employed under a 3-year contract by Pediatrix Nevada and would work in the NICU at these facilities.

These facilities are designated as a Health professional Shortage Areas ("HPSA"). Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center's HPSA Primary Care HPSA ID is 1324377592, with a HPSA Score of 12, Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center's HPSA Primary Care HPSA ID is 1321146138 with a HPSA Score of 18, and Sunrise's HPSA Primary Care HPSA ID is 1328484648, with a HPSA Score of 16.

Pediatrix Nevada is a subsidiary of Pediatrix Medical Group, Inc. ("Pediatrix Medical Group"), which is in turn an operating division of PMG, Inc. ("PMG"), a national medical group that comprises the broad physician services of Pediatrix Medical Group and American Anesthesiology. Pediatrix Medical Group was founded in 1979 as a neonatal physician group and has expanded to become the nation's largest provider of



maternal-fetal-newborn care by remaining focused on one simple belief, taking great care of the patient. It has invested in the clinical, information and management systems necessary for physicians to improve patient outcomes through a series of evidence-based initiatives. As a strong national physician group, Pediatrix Medical Group is built on a foundation that successfully responds to the constant changes taking place in healthcare, and most specifically, the changing needs of patients.

Pediatrix is the largest provider of neonatal and maternal fetal care in the United States, and has provided neonatal services in Las Vegas, Nevada for the past fifteen years. We provide medical care to Medicaid and uninsured patients. Hiring Dr. Durganna will give us the minimum "man-power" to continue to provide neonatal services. As the Medical Director of the NICU and a Neonatologist with Pediatrix Nevada, I am very much aware of the significant health needs of our city and state, including our very high infant mortality rate, especially among black infants. The prematurity rate remains higher than the goals set by Nevada's State government. Within the NICU, our survival rate is 92%, but this is only achieved through careful attention to detail by a top-notch staff including our 24/7 in-house coverage by Neonatologists, Pediatric Neurologists, and Pediatric Cardiac Intensivists. We turn no patients away. We currently have 2 Neonatologists on staff at Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center, 2 Neonatologists on staff at Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center, and 9 Neonatologists on staff at Sunrise Children's Hospital. To be at full strength, we will need 6 additional Neonatologists at Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center and Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center and 2 Neonatologists at Sunrise Children's Hospital. The approximate distance and travel time patients would need to travel to obtain the same services at the next closest facility or other access issues is as follows: 271 miles to Children's Hospital Los Angeles; 546 miles to Stanford University Hospital; 430 miles to Primary Children's Hospital.

These facilities are part of the Sunrise health System ("Sunrise"). Sunrise is the largest and most comprehensive children's hospital in Nevada. When our doctors, nurses, parents, and others come together, we can make amazing things happen for the children of Nevada. That's what we mean by "Amazing Together"—Working together to provide expert care for infants, children, adolescents and expectant mothers in our community, the surrounding region and the millions of visitors that come to Las Vegas. Their commitment to amazing care begins with providing a full range of services designed especially for kids, from our dedicated pediatric emergency room and inpatient unit to our pediatric surgery program. They have the largest Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) in the state. Their 72-bed, regional NICU serves critically ill newborns and premature infants in Las Vegas and the surrounding areas that require medical or surgical intervention. As a Level III NICU, their NICU is the largest, most comprehensive NICU in the state of Nevada. More than 900 babies a year are cared for in this unit by a comprehensive team of clinical experts.

Pediatrix provides medical care to Medicare, Medicaid and uninsured patients and use a sliding fee scale discount schedule. No patient gets turned down. Hiring Dr. Durganna will give us the core staff necessary to continue to provide Neonatology services. If we continue to work at this pace without another Neonatologist, we run the risk that our service can no longer be provided at the high level of care needed because of professional fatigue and physical limitations of this pace.

I am very much aware of the significant health needs of our city and state, including a shortage of Neonatologists, and a lack of coverage of the on-call schedules for our facilities. I can attest that we definitely need additional neonatologists in the community. Dr. Durganna's expertise is greatly desired and needed. Las Vegas has been a difficult area to recruit Neonatologists for many reasons. We have been actively recruiting physicians for several years and from time to time used a variety of interim physicians in that time period. We have been actively recruiting for a Neonatologist for several months. Contacts were made through the Pediatrix



corporate recruiter, at national meetings, by advertisements in the journal *Pediatrics* and on the website [www.MDSearch.com](http://www.MDSearch.com), and through personal letters and contacts. We respectfully submit that permission to employ Dr. Durganna will support our efforts in providing comprehensive medical care to Las Vegas' underserved population and would also enhance our partnerships with the local community in the provision of neonatal services.

In a June 2018 Report entitled "Physician Workforce in Nevada 2018" published by the Nevada Health Workforce Research Center provides current data on the supply of physicians, nurses, and other health care workers in Nevada. The report acknowledges that while the population of Nevada has grown since 2005, its physician-to-patient ratio has remained flat despite efforts to attract more doctors to Nevada. Nevada is mired at 47th nationwide for active physicians and 48th for active primary care doctors per 100,000 residents. The Report states that *"A common feature of licensure trends over the past decade has been substantial growth in the number of licensees for most health professions, yet modest, if little, growth in the number of licensed health professionals per capita. For example, from 2006 to 2016, the number of licensed allopathic physicians (MDs) grew, from 4,062 to 5,092, or by 1,030 (25.4%). However, the number of licensed MDs per 100,000 only increased by 19.1 percent during the same period due to steady population growth. This "treading water" trend typifies medicine and most of the licensure data presented in this section and helps explain why Nevada's poor health workforce rankings among U.S. states do not change appreciably from year to year, despite the fact that the number of licensees in most fields has grown over the past ten years."*

Employing Dr. Durganna will support our efforts in providing high risk obstetrical care, neonatal intensive care and transport of critically ill infants for Las Vegas to Medicaid, Medicare eligible patients and the uninsured patients. In particular, she would perform the following responsibilities:

- Provide supportive care/resuscitation for the newborn in the delivery room.
- Initiate and performs emergency and stabilization procedures for the newborn.
- Consult/evaluate, makes recommendations and implements care as required.
- Collaborate with members of the healthcare team in assessment and management of neonates.
- Perform physical examinations.
- Order appropriate diagnostic tests
- Establish records and implements a plan of care.
- Monitor and record progress, evaluates care and makes modifications accordingly.
- Order, regulate, and adjust treatments and medications.
- Communicate with referring physicians and consultants as necessary.
- Coordinate transport and transfer of patients to/from the appropriate NICU.
- Perform procedures listed below when indicated:
  - Endotracheal intubation/re-intubation
  - Umbilical venous and/or arterial catheter placement
  - Diagnostic thoracentesis and places tube thoracostomy
  - Arterial puncture and places arterial catheters
  - Diagnostic lumbar puncture
  - Vene puncture and peripheral venous line placement
  - Performs reduction exchange transfusions



Dr. Durganna has the desired combination of talent and compassion to service the needs of the residents of Las Vegas, Nevada. In 2018, Dr. Durganna obtained a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degree from Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute, in Bangalore, India. Dr. Durganna completed her Pediatric Residency Program at Studer Family Children's Hospital, University of Florida in Florida in 2022. Currently, Dr. Durganna is enrolled in a neonatal-perinatal fellowship training program at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital.


Please note the following additional information regarding our need for Dr. Durganna's services as a Neonatologist:

- a) Dr. Durganna would serve an anticipated Medicaid patient population consisting of greater than 70% of all patients seen at our practice;
- b) Dr. Durganna would serve an anticipated uninsured patient population that represents a material percentage of the practice's patient population;
- c) Dr. Durganna will utilize all of the resources available at the practice sites; and
- d) The practice is hospital-based.

Dr. Durganna is very personable and establishes rapport easily with other people and communicates very well. She has specific plans for developing the healthcare of the community in Las Vegas, Nevada, including contributing to our outreach education program, and advancing our research and quality improvement agendas. Dr. Durganna is a dedicated professional who is excited to provide care in this community. With your assistance, Dr. Durganna will be able to help resolve our staffing shortfall in order to meet the needs of the patients in our city.

We respectfully request permission to employ Dr. Durganna who will support our efforts in providing comprehensive medical care to the underserved population in Las Vegas, Nevada and would also enhance our partnerships with the local community in the provision of Neonatology services. I appreciate your consideration of our application for a State Conrad 30 J-1 waiver recommendation of the 3-year foreign residency requirement on behalf of Dr. Durganna. The need for a specialist in neonatology is in the public interest, and we are in need of Dr. Durganna's services.

Sincerely,

  
Gary Yup (Mar 6, 2025 12:14 PST)  
Gary Yup, MD

Medical Director

# **Sahana Durganna. M.B.B.S..**

## **EDUCATION**

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<b>Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)</b> Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute, Bangalore, India	Sep, 2011 – Apr, 2018
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## **POSTGRADUATE TRAINING**

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<b>Fellowship, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine</b> Loma Linda University Children's Hospital (LLUCH) Loma Linda, CA Program Director: Dr. Anamika Banerji	July, 2022 – June, 2025
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<b>Residency, Pediatrics</b> Studer Family Children's Hospital, University of Florida Pensacola, FL Program Director: Dr. Diane Wilkinson	July, 2019 – June, 2022
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## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Certification by American Board of Pediatrics, Active  
American Academy of Pediatrics, Active  
The Medical Board of California, Active  
Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP), Active  
Basic Life Support (BLS), Active

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

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<b>Outstanding First Year Resident</b> Pediatrics Residency Program, University of Florida-Pensacola, FL	2020
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- Awarded to the top intern every year

## **CLINICAL INTEREST**

- 
- *Improving adequate pain control and incorporating more non-opioid sedation in neonates*
  - *Reducing neonatal stress by incorporating stress scores into daily practise*
  - *Holistic care of extremely low birth weight/gestational age preterm infants*

# Sahana Duranna. M.B.B.S.,

## ACADEMIC INTEREST

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- *Correlation of pain/stress scores with oxidative stress markers in neonates*
- *Incorporating POCUS into daily clinical practice*

## RESEARCH AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

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<b>Clinical Research</b>   Loma Linda University Children's Hospital	2022 – present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Correlation of Neonatal Infant Stress Scale (NISS) scores with urine purine metabolites in preterm infants</li></ul> Mentor: Dr. Danilyn Angeles, PhD	
<b>Clinical Research</b>   Studer Family Children's Hospital, UF-Pensacola	2019 – 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Determining the prevalence of ADHD in adolescents with Adverse Childhood Experiences</li></ul> Mentor: Dr. James Burns	
<b>Clinical Research</b>   Studer Family Children's Hospital, UF-Pensacola	2019 – 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Automated Oxygen Control in the NICU</li></ul> Mentor: Dr. Ramak Amjad	
<b>Clinical Research</b>   Bangalore Medical College & Research Institute	2016 – 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bacteriology of Active Squamous type of Chronic Otitis Media with complications</li></ul> Mentor: Dr. Viswanatha Borlingegowda	
<b>Bench Research</b>   Johns Hopkins University	2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Targeted immunomodulation in Vascularized Composite Allotransplantation (VCA) in mice (Visiting Medical Student)</li></ul> Mentor: Dr. Gerald Brandacher	
<b>Quality Improvement</b>   Loma Linda University Children's Hospital	2022 – present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reducing MRI sedation in NICU by using non-pharmacological methods</li></ul> Mentor: Dr. Larry Ngo	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Providing a structured approach to the premature antenatal consults</li></ul> Mentor: Dr. Larry Ngo, Dr. Srinandini Rao	2022 – 2023

# Sahana Durganna, M.B.B.S.,

## LECTURES

Lecture for Pediatric Residents, UF-Pensacola	2019 – 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fatty Liver Disease – A growing concern among adolescents</li><li>• Effect of bilingual environment on language development</li><li>• Hyperbilirubinemia in neonates</li><li>• Syncope: Differentiating the benign from the life threatening</li><li>• Common respiratory conditions in a neonate</li></ul>	
Surgical Lecture Series, Bangalore Medical College & Research Institute	2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multi Drug Resistant Tuberculosis – Old problem, new solution</li></ul>	

## LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEES

Fellowship Program Social Media Manager, LLUCH	2022 – present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Responsible for managing content for the program's official social media profile</li></ul>	
Wellness Committee Chief, LLUCH	2022 – present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Responsible for organising wellness activities and social events for fellows</li></ul>	
Resident Wellness Committee Chair, UF-Pensacola	2019 – 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organised wellness activities and programs for residents</li></ul>	
Social Committee Chair, UF-Pensacola.	2019 – 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organized social events and activities for residents</li></ul>	

## SERVICE

Urban Family Welfare Centre, Medical Staff, Bangalore, India	2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raised awareness regarding menstruation and menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls</li><li>• Advised malnourished children and their parents on appropriate weight gain and healthy eating practices</li></ul>	
National Pulse Polio Program, Medical Staff, Bangalore, India	2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administered polio vaccines in booths set-up during Polio campaign</li><li>• Followed up and administered vaccines door-to-door to children who missed vaccines</li><li>• Advised and counselled about preventative measures</li></ul>	

# Sahana Durganna, M.B.B.S.,

## OUTREACH

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<b>Da Nang Hospital for Women and Children, Da Nang, Vietnam</b>	Nov 2024
Part of Global Pediatric Specialist Alliance team	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rounded with the NICU team at DNHWC on challenging cases and discussed alternative treatment options</li><li>• Provided lectures on recent advances and changes in clinical practice in Neonatology</li><li>• Provided medical supplies</li></ul>	

## ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

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<b>Academic presentations</b>	
Journal Club   LLUCH	2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Therapeutic Hypothermia in preterm infants 34 – 35 weeks gestational age for neonatal encephalopathy</li></ul>	
Journal Club at Joint Fellows Conference, UCSD	2023
Hosted by Dr Marc-Aurele	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Effects of sustained inflation in a preterm infant</li></ul>	
Joint Neonatal Hemodynamic Conference   LLUCH + USC	2023
Hosted by Dr Ramanathan, Dr Singh	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Myocardial dysfunction in the neonate</li></ul>	
Radiology Partner's Just-in-Case Collection   Austin Radiology Association	2022
Hosted by Dr Barr	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frontal Cortical Dysplasia</li></ul>	
<b>Research presentations</b>	
Western Society for Pediatric Research	2025
Oral presentation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clinical correlation of Neonatal Infant Stressor Scale with urinary purine metabolites in premature infants less than 1000 grams</li></ul>	
Pediatric Grand Rounds, UF-Pensacola	2022
Hosted by Dr Wilkinson	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Determining the prevalence of ADHD in adolescents with Adverse Childhood Experiences</li></ul>	
Southern Regional Meeting, New Orleans	2019
Poster presentation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 17 year old with serious liver disease presenting with mildly elevated liver enzymes: A case report</li></ul>	

# **Sahana Durganna M.B.B.S.**

## **RESEARCH GRANTS**

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<b>Neonatology Research, Education Training Grant</b>	2023
Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, Loma Linda, CA	

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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Viswanatha, Borlingegowda, Sahana Durganna, Rasika Ravikumar, Maliyappanahalli Siddappa Vijayashree, and Priyadarshini Vincent. 2014. "Bacteriology of Active Squamous Type of Chronic Otitis Media with Complications" 2014 (32): 9–15

## **LANGUAGES**

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Kannada – Native  
German – Intermediate

## **J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Program Application Attestation**

### **Candidates Information:**

Full Name: Mayela Andreina Duque Blanco

Residency Discipline: Pediatric

Residency Timeframe: 07/2018 to 06/2021

Location of Residency: Woodhull Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York

Fellowship/Specialty: Neonatology

Fellowship Timeframe: 07/2021 to 07/2024

Location of Fellowship: University of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois

### **Employers Information:**

Employer's Full Name: Pokroy Medical Group of NV, LTD d/b/a Pediatrix Medical Group of Nevada

Employer's Address: 1301 Concord Terrace, Sunrise, FL 33323

Employer's Point of Contact Name: Debra McRoberts, SVP People Services

Employer's Email Address: debra.mcroberts@pediatrix.com

Employer's Phone Number: 714-620-3002

### **Official Legal Representative Information:**

Law Firm Name: Jackson Lewis P.C.

Law Firm Address: 44 South Broadway, White Plains, NY 10601

Point of Contact Name: Otieno B. Ombokk

Point of Contact Email Address: Otieno.Ombokk@jacksonlewis.com

Point of Contact Phone Number: 914-872-6895

### **Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #1: Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center

Practice Site #1 Address: 9300 W. Sunset Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89148

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 40

Select all that apply:

☒ In a HPSA 1324377592

☐ In a MUA/MUP MUA #

☐ Flex

Spot ☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) ☐ Tribal Health Center

☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)

☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

**If using a Flex Spot (non HPSA):**

**Flex Spot Information for site #1:**

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: Current Ratio.

Optimum physician to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

**Specialist/Hospitalist Information for site #1:**

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: 1:15

Optimum physician to patient ratio: 1:4

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 271 miles

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**Additional Practice Sites:**

**Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #2: Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center

Practice Site #2 Address: 3100 N. Tenaya Way, Las Vegas, NV 89128

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 40

Select all that apply:

- |   |  |                                    |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In a HPSA 1321146138          | <input type="checkbox"/> In a MUA/MUP MUA #                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Flex Spot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Health Center                            |                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Health Clinic (RHC)                | <input type="checkbox"/> Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital |                                    |

**Flex Spot Information for site #2:**

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL

Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

**Specialist/Hospitalist Information for site #2:**

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: 1:8

Optimum physician to patient ratio: 1:4

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 271 miles

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

**\*If there are more than 2 practice sites, please add all additional practice locations with the above information, at the end of this form.\***



Practice Site Information:

Practice Site 3: Sunrise Children's Hospital, 3186 S. Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Number of hours candidate will practice at site per week: 40

HPSA: 1328484648

MUA/MUP: 07866

Specialist/Hospitalist Information for site #3

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: 1:7

Optimum physician to patient ratio: 1:5

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 271 miles

<b>Time period of report:</b> December 2023 to December 2024 - Mountain Hospital & Medical Center see addendum for Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center and Sunrise Children Hospital		
	<b>Total # of visits for 12 months</b>	<b>% of visits per 12 months</b>
Medicare visits	0	0
Medicaid visits	191	65%
NV Check-up	0	0
Sliding Fee Scale	0	0
Indigent/Charity	0	0
Other - Not listed above	102	35%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists:</b>		
<b>*Time period of report:</b>	June 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	
<b>*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type</b>	111	

- ☒ Please provide the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	4
# of PAs by FTE	0
# of APNs by FTE	0

**Tab D:**

- ☒ Describe and document the employer's recruitment and retention efforts. The employer must demonstrate that a suitable physician with US citizenship cannot be found through recruitment or any other means for at least two months prior to the submission of the application. Employers in rural communities may request a waiver of the two-month recruitment period in cases of emergency, where the previous physician becomes disabled, dies, or leaves the area, and the community would be left with compromised medical coverage.

**Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center**

**TABLE DOCUMENTING NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PATIENT VISITS  
BILLED FOR EACH CATEGORY OF PAYMENT FOR THE LAST 12-  
MONTH PERIOD:**

<b>Time period of report:</b> (December, 2023 to December, 2024)		
	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	0	0
Medicaid visits	138	60%
NV Check-up	0	0
Sliding Fee Scale	0	0
Indigent/Charity	0	0
Other - Not listed above	92	40%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists</b>		
<b>Time period of report:</b>	June 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	
<b>*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type</b>	100	

Total number of the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	4
# of PAs by FTE	0
# of APNs by FTE	0

**SUNRISE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**  
**TABLE DOCUMENTING NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PATIENT VISITS**  
**BILLED FOR EACH CATEGORY OF PAYMENT FOR THE LAST 12-**  
**MONTH PERIOD:**

<b>Time period of report:</b> (December, 2023 to December, 2024)		
	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	0	0
Medicaid visits	912	75%
NV Check-up	0	0
Sliding Fee Scale	0	0
Indigent/Charity	0	0
Other - Not listed above	100	25%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1212</b>	<b>100%</b>
*For specialists/hospitalists		
<b>Time period of report:</b>	June 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	
*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type	450	

Total number of the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	9
# of PAs by FTE	5
# of APNs by FTE	0



March 6, 2025

Primary Care Office  
4150 Technology Way, Suite 300  
Carson City, NV 89706

Re: J-1 Visa Waiver Application of Pokroy Medical Group of Nevada Ltd. d/b/a  
Pediatrix Medical Group of Nevada  
on behalf of Dr. Mayela Andreina Duque Blanco

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is written by Pokroy Medical Group of Nevada Ltd. d/b/a Pediatrix Medical Group of Nevada ("Pediatrix Nevada") in support of the J-1 waiver application on behalf of Dr. Mayela Andreina Duque Blanco.

Pediatrix Nevada would like to employ Dr. Duque Blanco in the position of Neonatologist at the following employment sites:

- Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center  
9300 W. Sunset RD, Las Vegas, NV 89148
- Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center  
3100 N. Tenaya Way, Las Vegas, NV 89128
- Sunrise Children's Hospital  
3186 S. Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

I, Gary Yup, am employed by Pediatrix Nevada in the position of Medical Director and I can be contacted at:

- Telephone
- fax number
- e-mail address

As Pediatrix Nevada's Medical Director responsible for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit ("NICU"), I am asking that the Nevada Division of Public & Behavioral Health act as an interested government agency and recommend a J-1 waiver for Dr. Duque Blanco. Our medical practice provides 24/365 pediatric critical care at Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center, Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center, and Sunrise Children's Hospital's NICU. If the waiver is granted, Dr. Duque Blanco would be employed under a 3-year contract by Pediatrix Nevada and would work in the NICU at these facilities.

These facilities are designated as a Health professional Shortage Areas ("HPSA"). Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center's HPSA Primary Care HPSA ID is 1324377592, with a HPSA Score of 12, Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center's HPSA Primary Care HPSA ID is 1321146138 with a HPSA Score of 18, and Sunrise's HPSA Primary Care HPSA ID is 1328484648, with a HPSA Score of 16.

Pediatrix Nevada is a subsidiary of Pediatrix Medical Group, Inc. ("Pediatrix Medical Group"), which is in turn an operating division of PMG, Inc. ("PMG"), a national medical group that comprises the broad





physician services of Pediatrix Medical Group and American Anesthesiology. Pediatrix Medical Group was founded in 1979 as a neonatal physician group and has expanded to become the nation's largest provider of maternal-fetal-newborn care by remaining focused on one simple belief, taking great care of the patient. It has invested in the clinical, information and management systems necessary for physicians to improve patient outcomes through a series of evidence-based initiatives. As a strong national physician group, Pediatrix Medical Group is built on a foundation that successfully responds to the constant changes taking place in healthcare, and most specifically, the changing needs of patients.

Pediatrix is the largest provider of neonatal and maternal fetal care in the United States, and has provided neonatal services in Las Vegas, Nevada for the past fifteen years. We provide medical care to Medicaid and uninsured patients. Hiring Dr. Duque Blanco will give us the minimum "man-power" to continue to provide neonatal services. As the Medical Director of the NICU and a Neonatologist with Pediatrix Nevada, I am very much aware of the significant health needs of our city and state, including our very high infant mortality rate, especially among black infants. The prematurity rate remains higher than the goals set by Nevada's State government. Within the NICU, our survival rate is 92%, but this is only achieved through careful attention to detail by a top-notch staff including our 24/7 in-house coverage by Neonatologists, Pediatric Neurologists, and Pediatric Cardiac Intensivists. We turn no patients away. We currently have 2 Neonatologists on staff at Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center, 2 Neonatologists on staff at Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center, and 9 Neonatologists on staff at Sunrise Children's Hospital. To be at full strength, we will need 6 additional Neonatologists at Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center and Mountainview Hospital & Medical Center and 2 Neonatologists at Sunrise Children's Hospital. The approximate distance and travel time patients would need to travel to obtain the same services at the next closest facility or other access issues is as follows: 271 miles to Children's Hospital Los Angeles; 546 miles to Stanford University Hospital; 430 miles to Primary Children's Hospital.

These facilities are part of the Sunrise health System ("Sunrise"). Sunrise is the largest and most comprehensive children's hospital in Nevada. When our doctors, nurses, parents, and others come together, we can make amazing things happen for the children of Nevada. That's what we mean by "Amazing Together"—Working together to provide expert care for infants, children, adolescents and expectant mothers in our community, the surrounding region and the millions of visitors that come to Las Vegas. Their commitment to amazing care begins with providing a full range of services designed especially for kids, from our dedicated pediatric emergency room and inpatient unit to our pediatric surgery program. They have the largest Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) in the state. Their 72-bed, regional NICU serves critically ill newborns and premature infants in Las Vegas and the surrounding areas that require medical or surgical intervention. As a Level III NICU, their NICU is the largest, most comprehensive NICU in the state of Nevada. More than 900 babies a year are cared for in this unit by a comprehensive team of clinical experts.

Pediatrix provides medical care to Medicare, Medicaid and uninsured patients and use a sliding fee scale discount schedule. No patient gets turned down. Hiring Dr. Duque Blanco will give us the core staff necessary to continue to provide Neonatology services. If we continue to work at this pace without another Neonatologist, we run the risk that our service can no longer be provided at the high level of care needed because of professional fatigue and physical limitations of this pace.

I am very much aware of the significant health needs of our city and state, including a shortage of Neonatologists, and a lack of coverage of the on-call schedules for our facilities. I can attest that we definitely need additional neonatologists in the community. Dr. Duque Blanco's expertise is greatly desired and needed. Las Vegas has been a difficult area to recruit Neonatologists for many reasons. We have been actively recruiting physicians for several years and from time to time used a variety of interim physicians in that time period. We





have been actively recruiting for a Neonatologist for several months. Contacts were made through the Pediatrix corporate recruiter, at national meetings, by advertisements in the journal *Pediatrics* and on the website [www.MDSearch.com](http://www.MDSearch.com), and through personal letters and contacts. We respectfully submit that permission to employ Dr. Duque Blanco will support our efforts in providing comprehensive medical care to Las Vegas' underserved population and would also enhance our partnerships with the local community in the provision of neonatal services.

In a June 2018 Report entitled "Physician Workforce in Nevada 2018" published by the Nevada Health Workforce Research Center provides current data on the supply of physicians, nurses, and other health care workers in Nevada. The report acknowledges that while the population of Nevada has grown since 2005, its physician-to-patient ratio has remained flat despite efforts to attract more doctors to Nevada. Nevada is mired at 47th nationwide for active physicians and 48th for active primary care doctors per 100,000 residents. The Report states that *"A common feature of licensure trends over the past decade has been substantial growth in the number of licensees for most health professions, yet modest, if little, growth in the number of licensed health professionals per capita. For example, from 2006 to 2016, the number of licensed allopathic physicians (MDs) grew, from 4,062 to 5,092, or by 1,030 (25.4%). However, the number of licensed MDs per 100,000 only increased by 19.1 percent during the same period due to steady population growth. This "treading water" trend typifies medicine and most of the licensure data presented in this section and helps explain why Nevada's poor health workforce rankings among U.S. states do not change appreciably from year to year, despite the fact that the number of licensees in most fields has grown over the past ten years."*

Employing Dr. Duque Blanco will support our efforts in providing high risk obstetrical care, neonatal intensive care and transport of critically ill infants for Las Vega to Medicaid, Medicare eligible patients and the uninsured patients. In particular, she would perform the following responsibilities:

- Provide supportive care/resuscitation for the newborn in the delivery room.
- Initiate and performs emergency and stabilization procedures for the newborn.
- Consult/evaluate, makes recommendations and implements care as required.
- Collaborate with members of the healthcare team in assessment and management of neonates.
- Perform physical examinations.
- Order appropriate diagnostic tests
- Establish records and implements a plan of care.
- Monitor and record progress, evaluates care and makes modifications accordingly.
- Order, regulate, and adjust treatments and medications.
- Communicate with referring physicians and consultants as necessary.
- Coordinate transport and transfer of patients to/from the appropriate NICU.
- Perform procedures listed below when indicated:
  - Endotracheal intubation/re-intubation
  - Umbilical venous and/or arterial catheter placement
  - Diagnostic thoracentesis and places tube thoracostomy
  - Arterial puncture and places arterial catheters
  - Diagnostic lumbar puncture
  - Vene puncture and peripheral venous line placement
  - Performs reduction exchange transfusions



Dr. Duque Blanco has the desired combination of talent and compassion to service the needs of the residents of Las Vegas, Nevada. In 2014, Dr. Duque Blanco obtained a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Los Andes, in Venezuela. Dr. Duque Blanco completed her Pediatric Residency Program at Woodhull Medical Center, in Brooklyn, New York in 2021. In 2024, she completed a subspecialty fellowship training program in neonatal medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Please note the following additional information regarding our need for Dr. Duque Blanco's services as a Neonatologist:

- a) Dr. Duque Blanco would serve an anticipated Medicaid patient population consisting of greater than 70% of all patients seen at our practice;
- b) Dr. Duque Blanco would serve an anticipated uninsured patient population that represents a material percentage of the practice's patient population;
- c) Dr. Duque Blanco will utilize all of the resources available at the practice sites; and
- d) The practice is hospital-based.

Dr. Duque Blanco is very personable and establishes rapport easily with other people and communicates very well. She has specific plans for developing the healthcare of the community in Las Vegas, Nevada, including contributing to our outreach education program, and advancing our research and quality improvement agendas. Dr. Duque Blanco is a dedicated professional who is excited to provide care in this community. With your assistance, Dr. Duque Blanco will be able to help resolve our staffing shortfall in order to meet the needs of the patients in our city.

We respectfully request permission to employ Dr. Duque Blanco who will support our efforts in providing comprehensive medical care to the underserved population in Las Vegas, Nevada and would also enhance our partnerships with the local community in the provision of Neonatology services. I appreciate your consideration of our application for a State Conrad 30 J-1 waiver recommendation of the 3-year foreign residency requirement on behalf of Dr. Duque Blanco. The need for a specialist in neonatology is in the public interest, and we are in need of Dr. Duque Blanco services.

Sincerely,

*Gary Yup*

Gary Yup (Mar 6, 2025 12:16 PST)

Gary Yup

Medical Director

# Mayela Andreina Duque Blanco, MD

## **EDUCATION**

### **Taylor Business Institute**

Chicago, IL

*English as a Second Language – advanced writing and reading*

May 2017 - March 2018

### **Kaplan Medical**

Chicago, IL

*Basic Science, Clinical Science and Clinical Medicine*

October 2015 - March 2017

### **University of Los Andes**

Venezuela

*Medical Doctor*

September 2007 - May 2014

## **POSTGRADUATE TRAINING**

### **Woodhull Medical Center**

Brooklyn NY

*Pediatric Residency*

July 2018 - June 2021

### **University of Illinois at Chicago**

Chicago, IL

*Neonatology Fellowship*

July 2021 - July 2024

## **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Ambulatorio Militar La Rosaleda, San Antonio de Los Altos**

Venezuela

Duties: Physician in wards, clinic and urgent care, preventive medicine

September 2014 - September 2015

### **VIDA Pediatrics**

Chicago, IL

Observership: Interviewed and examined patients. Developed differential diagnosis assessments and plans with attending.

August 2017 - September 2017

### **Mount Sinai Hospital**

Chicago, IL

Observership: Cardiology service, rounds in wards, ecocardiografia, cardiac cath lab

July 2017

**Ascension Resurrection and St Joseph Hospital**  
Chicago, IL  
Duties: Neonatologist.

August 2024 - Present

### **CERTIFICATIONS**

Pediatric Board  
ECFMG Certification

October 14 2021  
September 2017

### **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

American Academy of Pediatrics

July 2018 - Present

### **SERVICE & LEADERSHIP**

Neonatal-Perinatal Chief Fellow  
University of Illinois Hospital  
Chicago, IL.

January 2023 - July 2024

Pediatric Chief Resident  
Woodhull Hospital  
Brooklyn, NY.

July 2020 - June 2021

Volunteering at Ambulatorio de Barrancas  
San Cristóbal, Venezuela

August 2013 - September 2013

Presentations to communities on immunizations and preventive medicine. Provided logistical support for medical activities held in small communities.

Volunteering at Rotary Club San Cristóbal - District 4380  
*Presentations:*

Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy  
Sexually Transmitted Infections

May 2011  
September 2011

Volunteering at The Richmond Hospital  
Richmond BC, Canada  
Wayfinder

April 2007 - June 2007

### **HONORS & AWARDS**

**Cum Laude**  
Universidad de los Andes  
Merida, Venezuela

May 2014



**Outstanding Academic performance Award.**

June 2009

Ranked 4th.

Universidad de los Andes

San Cristóbal, Venezuela

**Outstanding Academic performance Award.**

June 2010

Ranked 5th.

Universidad de los Andes

San Cristóbal, Venezuela

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

Duque, M., Krishnan, S.. (2024, June) Impact on Congenital Hydronephrosis on Linear Growth in Children. [Seminar Presented] University of Illinois, Division of Neonatology, Chicago, IL, USA.

Duque, M., Valdes, C., Nanda, S., Rodriguez, Alex.. (2019, June 01). Newborn with Cafe Au Lait Spots [Poster presented]. NeoForum Scientific Session/Morristown, NJ, USA

Vega, V., Duque, M., Don Pedro, D., Bhatta, S., Joshi, H., Pee, H., Ugwu, N.. (2019, June 01). Annular Erythematous Cutaneous Lesions in a Neonate [Poster presented]. NeoForum Scientific Session/Morristown, NJ, USA.

Duque, M., Valdes, C., Nanda, S.. (2019, June 01). Newborn with Cafe Au Lait Spots. [Oral Presentation]. Pediatric Grand Rounds, Woodhull Medical Center./Brooklyn, NY, USA.

Vega, V., Duque, M., Don Pedro, D., Bhatta, S.. (2020, Jul). Cureus Journal on Medical Science. A Neonate With Annular Cutaneous Lesions, 12(7), e9138. Pub Status: Published.

Ugwu, C., Duque, M., Vega, V., Bhatta, S., Nanda, S., Medows, M.. (2019, December 01). Improving communication with PCP following discharge from an inpatient admission. [Poster presented]. IHI National Forum/Orlando, FL, USA.

**LANGUAGES**

Spanish (native), English.

## **J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Program Application Attestation**

### **Candidates Information:**

Full Name: Lalitha Padmanabha Reddy VEMIREDDY

Residency Discipline: Internal Medicine

Residency Timeframe: 07/01/2019 to 06/30/2022

Location of Residency: Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science-Northwestern McHenry

Fellowship/Specialty: Nephrology and Critical Care

Fellowship Timeframe: 07/01/2022 to 06/30/2025

Location of Fellowship: University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Texas

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### **Employers Information:**

Employer's Full Name: Qazi Makhija & Barney LLP dba Nevada Nephrology Consultants

Employer's Address: 2820 W. Charleston Blvd., Ste. 33, Las Vegas, NV 89102

Employer's Point of Contact Name: Tami Gayikian

Employer's Email Address: nnc\_tami.gayikian@coxbusiness.net

Employer's Phone Number: 702-880-1558 Ext. 112

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### **Official Legal Representative Information:**

Law Firm Name: Brelje & Bus Immigration Law P.C.

Law Firm Address: 3080 N Litchfield Road, Goodyear, AZ 85395

Point of Contact Name: Rachel Bus

Point of Contact Email Address: rbus@breljelaw.com

Point of Contact Phone Number: 6235365750

### **Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #1: Nevada Nephrology Consultants

Practice Site #1 Address: 2820 W. Charleston Blvd., Ste. 33, Las Vegas, NV 89102

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 6

Select all that apply:



☒ In a HPSA 1328484648

☐ In a MUA/MUP MUA #

☐ Flex Spot

☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)

☐ Tribal Health Center

☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)

☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

**\*For specialists, hospitalists and/or flex locations please fill out the below section of the form that pertains to you.**

**Specialist Information for site #1:**

Current specialist to patient ratio at facility: 1:200

Optimum specialist to patient ratio: 1:50

Current number of specialist vacancies: 3

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 6 minutes

**Hospitalist Information for site #1:**

Current hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Optimum hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Current number of hospitalist vacancies: Current Vacancies.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

**Flex Spot Information for site #1:**

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL

Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: Current Ratio.

Optimum physician to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

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**Additional Practice Sites:**

**Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #2: Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center

Practice Site #2 Address: 3186 S Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV

89109 Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 30

Select all that apply:

☒ In a HPSA 1328484648

☒ In a MUA/MUP 07866

☐ Flex Spot

☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)

☐ Tribal Health Center

☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)

☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

**\*For specialists, hospitalists and/or flex locations please fill out the below section of the form that pertains to you.**

**Specialist Information for site #2:**

Current specialist to patient ratio at facility: 1:25/30

Optimum specialist to patient ratio: 1:15

Current number of specialist vacancies: 1

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 13

**Hospitalist Information for site #2:**

Current hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Optimum hospitalist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Current number of hospitalist vacancies: Current Vacancies.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

**Flex Spot Information for site #2:**

Percentage of population served at or below 200% federal poverty level: % under 200% FPL

Wait times for serving this population: Wait times.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: Distance travelled.

Current physician to patient ratio at facility: Current Ratio.

Optimum physician to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Please list any barriers to serve this population: Click or tap here to enter text.

\*If there are more than 2 practice sites, please add all additional practice locations with the above information, at the end of this form.\*

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Employer and Candidate, seek a letter of support from the Physician Visa Waiver Program and requests the Division of Public and Behavioral Health to forward the J-1 Visa Waiver application to the U.S. Department of State as a State Health Agency request, per DS-3035. Employer and Candidate have agreed to comply with the duties set forth in Chapter 439A of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) and to cooperate with the Physician Visa Waiver Program.

In signing below, an authorized representative of the Employer and the Candidate declares under penalty of perjury that all statements submitted with this application are true and accurate and this application complies with the requirements of NRS 439A.175 and NAC 439.730 including as follows:

**All practices sites where the Candidate will practice:**

- ☒ Are located in a federally designated Primary Care HPSA, MUA/P or a site approved by the state as a geographic exception or a flex slot (Public Law 108-441) to address the underserved;
- ☒ Accept Medicare, Medicaid assignment and Nevada Checkup;

**Additional Practice Sites:**

**Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #3: Davita Dialysis Center Lake Mead

Practice Site #3 Address: 713 E Lake Mead Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89130

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week: 4

Select all that apply:

- ☒ In a HPSA 1326180844      ☒ In a MUA/MUP 06158      ☐ Flex Spot  
☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)      ☐ Tribal Health Center  
☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)      ☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

**\*For specialists, hospitalists and/or flex locations please fill out the below section of the form that pertains to you.**

**Specialist Information for site #3:**

Current specialist to patient ratio at facility: 1:75

Optimum specialist to patient ratio: 1:40

Current number of specialist vacancies: 3

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty: 8 minutes

**Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #4:

Practice Site #4 Address:

Number of Hours Candidate will practice at site per week:

Select all that apply:

- ☒ In a HPSA      ☒ In a MUA/MUP      ☐ Flex Spot  
☐ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)      ☐ Tribal Health Center  
☐ Rural Health Clinic (RHC)      ☐ Primary Care Clinic for a Rural Health Hospital

**\*For specialists, hospitalists and/or flex locations please fill out the below section of the form that pertains to you.**

**Specialist Information for site #4:**

Current specialist to patient ratio at facility: Current Ratio.

Optimum specialist to patient ratio: Current Ratio.

Current number of specialist vacancies: Current Vacancies.

Approximate distance to nearest provider of the same specialty:

**Practice Site Information:**

Practice Site #5:

Practice Site #5 Address:

Time period of report: 03/01/2024-03/01/2025		
Nevada Nephrology Consultants	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	3663	60
Medicaid visits	978	16
NV Check-up	N/A	N/A
Sliding Fee Scale	0	0
Indigent/Charity		4
Other - Not listed above	1221	20
Totals	6094	100
*For specialists/hospitalists: Nephrology		
*Time period of report:	03/01/2024-03/01/2025	
*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type	N/A	

- ☐ Please provide the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	7
# of PAs by FTE	0
# of APNs by FTE	0

- ☐ Specialists and hospitalists are regular participants in our program and are required to submit additional documentation **for each practice site**, as outlined below. An application for medical specialists and/or hospitalists must include documentation to justify that there is a critical need for this service in a designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), Medically Underserved Area or Population (MUA/P) or Flex slot. Information to support critical need should include, but is not limited to, the following:
- Letter of support from hospital/medical facility that outlines the number of vacancies in the specialty/hospitalist positions. Include the total number of specialists that have hospital privileges at the facility.

<b>Time period of report:</b> 01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024		
Davita Dialysis Unit	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	8777	61.9
Medicaid visits	2095	14.8
NV Check-up	0	0
Sliding Fee Scale	0	0
Indigent/Charity	0	0
Other - Not listed above	3297	23.3
<b>Totals</b>	14,169	100
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists:</b> Nephrology		
<b>*Time period of report:</b>		01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024
*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type		104

☐ Please provide the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.

# of MDs by FTE	2
# of PAs by FTE	1
# of APNs by FTE	0

☐ Specialists and hospitalists are regular participants in our program and are required to submit additional documentation **for each practice site**, as outlined below. An application for medical specialists and/or hospitalists must include documentation to justify that there is a critical need for this service in a designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), Medically Underserved Area or Population (MUA/P) or Flex slot. Information to support critical need should include, but is not limited to, the following:

- a) Letter of support from hospital/medical facility that outlines the number of vacancies in the specialty/hospitalist positions. Include the total number of specialists that have hospital privileges at the facility.

<b>Time period of report:</b> 01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024		
Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center	Total # of visits for 12 months	% of visits per 12 months
Medicare visits	15764	35.64
Medicaid visits	16389	37.06
NV Check-up	0	0
Sliding Fee Scale	0	0
Indigent/Charity	2591	5.86
Other - Not listed above	9482	21.44
<b>Totals</b>	<b>44226</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>*For specialists/hospitalists:</b> Nephrology		
<b>*Time period of report:</b>		07/01/2024 - 12/31/2024
<b>*# of hospital/medical facility admissions for 6 months for the applicant specialty type</b>		804

- ☐ Please provide the number of providers (Full Time Equivalents, FTE) providing patient services at the practice site.
- Regarding the number of FTE MDs at Sunrise – Sunrise is a large hospital. It is one of only two full-service hospitals in Las Vegas where 3.5 million people reside. Sunrise has 834 beds. The number of FTEs includes all physicians who have privileges to provide full time services there, but on average, only 600-700 FTE MDs are practicing at the site at a time.
- |                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| # of MDs by FTE  | 1348 |
| # of PAs by FTE  | 7276 |
| # of APNs by FTE |      |

- ☐ Specialists and hospitalists are regular participants in our program and are required to submit additional documentation **for each practice site**, as outlined below. An application for medical specialists and/or hospitalists must include documentation to justify that there is a critical need for this service in a designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), Medically Underserved Area or Population (MUA/P) or Flex slot. Information to support critical need should include, but is not limited to, the following:
- Letter of support from hospital/medical facility that outlines the number of vacancies in the specialty/hospitalist positions. Include the total number of specialists that have hospital privileges at the facility.





April 1, 2025

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
Primary Care Office  
5140 Technology Way, Suite 300  
Carson City, NV 89706-2009

**RE: Letter of Support for J-1 Waiver for Dr. Lalitha Padmanabha Reddy Vemireddy**

Dear Health Official:

Sunrise Hospital writes this letter in support of the J-1 waiver application for Dr. Vemireddy. We are Las Vegas' largest acute care facility, and we have served the local community for over 60 years.

Nephrologists employed by Nevada Nephrology Consultants provide in-hospital care for patients in our hospital, and we are hoping to fill at least 1 vacancy. We are experiencing a shortage of nephrologists. Currently, 75 nephrologists have hospital privileges at our facility. Our current physician to patient ratio is 1:25/30, whereas our optimal ratio would be 1:15.

Furthermore, due to ongoing aftereffects of the pandemic, it is critical that we maintain optimum physician staffing levels at our facility. Nephrologists are essential for managing complex kidney-related conditions that can arise in critically ill patients. Acute kidney injury, electrolyte imbalances, and complications from chronic kidney disease often require prompt and specialized intervention to prevent serious complications. A nephrologist ensures that patients receive timely dialysis, fluid management, and expert consultation, improving outcomes and reducing the risk of long-term kidney damage. Their expertise is invaluable in coordinating care with other specialists, optimizing treatment plans, and enhancing overall patient recovery in a high-pressure hospital setting.

Nephrologists are crucial in helping to address the ongoing public health issues facing our region. In 2023, Las Vegas welcomed approximately 40.8 million visitors, marking a 5.2% increase over 2022 according to Travel Weekly.

The large influx of tourists to Las Vegas significantly impacts public health in several ways:

1. **Infectious Disease Risks:** With millions of visitors from diverse locations, the potential for the introduction and spread of infectious diseases increases, necessitating robust surveillance and public health measures.
2. **Healthcare System Demand:** Tourist-related injuries, heat-related illnesses, and other acute conditions place additional stress on local emergency services and healthcare facilities.
3. **Waste and Pollution:** The high volume of visitors contributes to increased waste production and pollution, which can impact air and water quality, affecting long-term public health.

Having additional physicians at our facility helps to mitigate potential risks and enhance the well-being of Las Vegas residents and tourists alike.


According to the U.S. Census Bureau, nearly 13% of the population in Clark County is living below the Federal Poverty Line, and over 13% of the population has no health insurance. Dr. Vemireddy's employment with Nevada Nephrology Consultants will help the underserved and indigent populations in Las Vegas by increasing access to qualified and affordable healthcare.

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
Dr. Vemireddy  
Page 2

Dr. Vemireddy is well qualified to fill this position. He received his medical degree from the Zaporozhe State Medical University in Zaporozhe, Ukraine in 2013. In June 2022, he completed his Internal Medicine Residency program at the Northwestern McHenry Hospital-Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science in McHenry, IL. In July 2022, he began a fellowship in Nephrology and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at San Antonio in San Antonio, TX. Dr. Vemireddy is scheduled to complete the program in June 2025, and he is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Nevada.

Employment of Dr. Vemireddy will serve the unmet needs of individuals in the shortage area, as well as our unmet staffing needs. Accordingly, we are requesting your recommendation of Dr. Vemireddy's J-1 waiver application. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Todd P. Sklamberg  
Chief Executive Officer

TPS/mak