



Peter S. Batra, MD, FACS

Stanton A. Friedberg, MD, Endowed Chair of
Otolaryngology and Bronchoesophagology

Advancement of Medicine

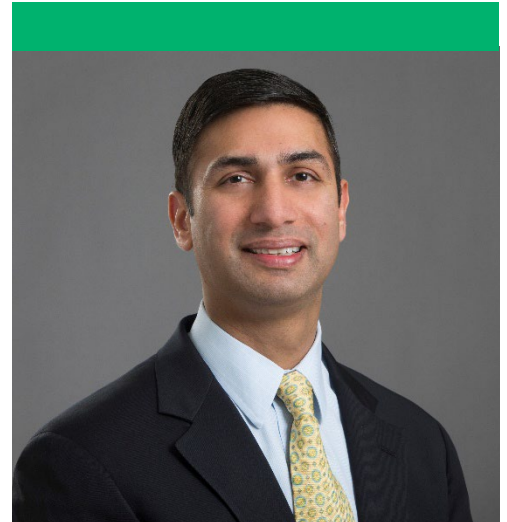
Our department continues to thrive in the clinical, educational, research, and service domains. Rush otorhinolaryngology remains a market leader in adult and pediatric ENT services in the greater Chicago area. Our surgeons, audiologists, advanced practice providers and sleep language pathologists deliver the highest quality care through 17 clinical programs at seven locations throughout the greater Chicago area and Northwest Indiana.

We welcomed several new faculty to our team this year. Peter Filip, MD, joined the Section of Rhinology and Skull Base Surgery after completing his advanced rhinology fellowship at Rush University Medical Center. Krupa Patel, MD, joined the Section of Pediatric Otolaryngology after finishing her complex pediatric otolaryngology fellowship at Lurie Children Hospital. Mausumi Syamal, MD, MSE, FACS, assumed the role of director, Voice, Airway and Swallowing Program. She completed her laryngology training at the Cleveland Clinic and most recently served as director of laryngology at Lehigh Valley Health System. Vanessa Stubbs, MD, joins the Section of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology. She completed her fellowship training at University of Miami and was a faculty member at Rutgers University for three years prior to joining Rush.

U.S. News & World Report has rated our program #22 nationally, and it is the top-ranked program in Illinois.

Research

In the realm of research, our faculty and residents have made substantial contributions to advancing scientific discovery and innovation in our specialty. The department has committed a corpus of \$500,000 in seed grants for faculty and residents to promote research inquiry over the next five years. Your generosity contributes to this effort. The department launched a Friedberg Student Research Fellowship in otorhinolaryngology this past year. This fellowship enables a student





interested in the field of otolaryngology to develop a foundation for future research success. Jinnee Lee, our first such research fellow, worked closely with faculty on clinical and translational research projects. Finally, your support partially enabled us to add a second full-time clinical research coordinator, Lauren Kret.

Clinical Trials

Our faculty remain committed to participating in clinical trials to evaluate novel treatments and surgical devices in rhinology, head and neck cancer, otology, sleep surgery and facial plastic surgery. Our faculty and residents have over 100 active prospective and retrospective research studies and have contributed to 60 peer-review publications over the past year. Your generosity has continued to support research efforts for faculty and residents for clinical and basic science studies, including the following five faculty pilot research studies:

- “The Impact of Nasal Surgery and Route of Breathing on Obstructive Sleep Apnea,” Michael Hutz, MD (PI)
- “Utility of Home Sleep Testing Screening in Pediatric Obstructive Sleep Apnea: A Pilot Study,” Anatoli Karas, MD (PI)
- “Clinical and Genomic Characteristics of Sinonasal Squamous Cell Carcinoma,” Peter Papagiannopoulos, MD (PI) and Tasher Losenegger, MD (RI)
- “Evaluating postoperative outcomes and canonical facial attractiveness within the framework of big data analytics,” Michael Eggerstedt, MD (PI)
- “Develop a biological dressing that acts as a drug delivery system through the incorporation of nanopeptides,” Ashok Jagasia, MD (PI)

Other major initiatives include:

- Cognitive Impairment in Chronic Rhinosinusitis research in conjunction with Allergy/Immunology. Prospective study funded by NIH/NCATS.
- Started recruitment for ENLIGHTEN 1: A phase III, randomized, blinded, controlled, parallel-group trial to evaluate the efficacy and safety of LYR-210 for the treatment of chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS) in adult subjects. FDA clinical trial funded by Lyra Therapeutics, Inc.



- Started recruitment for FLAVOR: A randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial to determine the safety and efficacy of CYR-064 theophylline nasal spray for the treatment of post-viral hyposmia. Clinical trial funded by Cyrano Therapeutics.

Publication, Presentations, Conferences—Abbreviated

- Published six original peer-review publications in 2023.
- Directed Rush Update in Otolaryngology 2023. In-person comprehensive ENT course that was hosted in the new Rubschlager Ambulatory Building.
- Program Chair of ARS and panelist at the Combined Otolaryngology Spring Meetings (COSM) 2023 meeting in Boston.
- Guest speaker at the International Federation of ORL Societies (IFOS) Dubai ENT World Congress 2023 held in Dubai, UAE.
- Moderator at the ARS 2023 Summer Sinus Symposium in Las Vegas.
- Chair of the ARS Strategic Planning Workgroup, “Governance and Administration.”
- For the 69th Annual American Rhinologic Society (ARS) meeting and subsequent professional meetings from September 30-October 3, 2023, in Nashville:
 - Served as program chair
 - Delivered two expert series on contemporary diagnosis and endoscopic management strategy for inverted papilloma and medical and surgical decision making in FESS failures.
 - Panelist on innovations in office-based therapy of the rhinology patient and Controversies in the contemporary management of nasal and sinus disease.
- Served as member of the American Academy of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery (AAO-HNS) Annual Meeting Program Committee.
- Served as co-author on International Consensus Statement on Allergy and Rhinology: Sinonasal Tumors.

Education

On the educational front, your generosity has played a pivotal role in shaping the training of our next generation of otolaryngologists. It enables highly qualified individuals to participate in our innovative educational tracks. In addition to the rigorous clinical and academic training, our program offers the



unique opportunity to pursue educational tracks in residency. Residents have an opportunity to obtain a master's in clinical research or health systems management, a global health certification or PSQI certification to further shape their career paths. Your support enables these residents to have an optimal experience by providing additional educational resources for board preparation, annual in-service training examination, travel associated with the global health track and other career-building tools.

The department held several national courses this past year, including the Rush University Otolaryngology Global Health Symposium, Rush ENT Course for PCPs and Rush Update in Otolaryngology 2023. These courses will continue in 2024, and we will add Rush Head and Neck Comprehensive Cancer Symposium to our educational portfolio this year.

We are grateful for your support of our visiting lectureship that brings nationally recognized thought leaders in our specialty for grand rounds and educational activities to Rush, including:

- Rhinology Visiting Professor Amber Luong, MD, professor and vice chair for Academic Affairs, Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery, McGovern Medical School, UT Health
- Head & Neck Visiting Professor Tamer Ghanem, MD, PhD, director of Head and Neck Microvascular Fellowship, Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery Department, Henry Ford Medical Group
- Graduation day speaker Peter Manes, MD, residency program director Division of Otolaryngology, Yale School of Medicine

Community Outreach

Service remains a key pillar of our departmental mission. Under the leadership of Ashok Jagasia, MD, PhD, the department has launched the Center for the Underserved in Rush ENT, or the CARE Initiative. The department holds a weekly otolaryngology clinic for people accessing Chicago's shelter system through in-person and telemedicine visits. Dr. Jagasia continues weekly outreach in Central Illinois to provide ENT services for rural communities with limited access to care. Many of these patients receive surgical care at Rush University Medical Center and Rush Oak Park Hospital. Our faculty and residents continue to engage in global health trips to Peralta, Dominican Republic,



semi-annually to provide a wide array of surgical services. Your generosity supported additional supplies for this mission.

The Year Ahead: 2024 and Beyond

We have a clear vision of what lies ahead and are grateful for your support to continue our success in the following areas and more:

- Launch clinical trial on treatment of viral induced smell loss, funded by Cyrano Therapeutics, Inc.
- Complete prospective clinic study on microbiome in chronic rhinosinusitis in conjunction with Allergy and Immunology.
- Complete prospective clinical study on the role of microbiome in sinonasal tumors in conjunction with Allergy and Immunology.
- Serve in nationally visible role as president of American Rhinologic Society (2023-24)
- Serve as keynote speaker at International Rhinologic Society meeting in Tokyo in April 2024.
- Serve as Guest of Honor at Singapore Allergy and Rhinology Course in July 2024.
- Continue to serve on multiple organizational committees (Rush University Medical Group Board, Surgical Chairs Council, Compensation Committee, Rush Oak Brook Surgery Center Board, RUMG Off Site Planning Group) to support our institutional clinical mission.

With Gratitude

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. We continue to thrive as we grow clinical and academic endeavors, thanks to your generosity. Also, the Friedberg Chair has enabled groundbreaking research and strengthened our commitment to excellence in education.

I remain deeply grateful for your support and extend my heartfelt gratitude for your generous commitment.