

Meet Our Medical Staff



Douglas Tucker, MD, Chief Medical Officer

Dr. Tucker completed his residency at Upstate Medical Center and is certified in internal medicine. He spent 12 years practicing internal medicine and was an attending physician at many skilled nursing facilities including Loretto. He worked for PACE in 2005-2006. Just prior to rejoining PACE as Medical Director in September 2013, he was the VP of Quality Improvement at MVP Healthcare's corporate office. Dr. Tucker is committed to maintaining a high level of participant satisfaction with our program, and delivering the highest quality of care to our PACE participants.



David Heisig, MD, Medical Director

Dr. Heisig graduated from Albany Medical College of Union University and completed his Internal Medicine training at SUNY Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse. He was an Academic Gastroenterologist on staff at Upstate, and also served as the Residency Program Director for the Department of Medicine there. Dr. Heisig joined Associated Gastroenterologists of CNY and practiced there for 10 years, and then returned to teaching as a Professor of Medicine at SUNY Upstate.



Twinkle Patel, MD

The structure of PACE CNY treatment, which is the multi-disciplinary team approach to elderly care and the interaction between patients and family, was the determining factor in Dr. Patel's joining PACE CNY. A graduate of medical school in Gujarat, India, Dr. Patel served her residency at Sacred Heart Hospital in Allentown, PA, where she won the best residency award for scholarly achievement, professionalism and high moral and ethical conduct. She is a member of the American Board of Family Practice.



Karen Heitzman, MD

Dr. Heitzman is a Syracuse native. She received her BS from St. Lawrence University and her MD from SUNY Upstate Medical Center. She completed her Internal Medicine training at SUNY Health Science Center in Syracuse, where she also served as Chief Resident. Dr. Heitzman became Board Certified in Geriatric Medicine in 1994 and has worked at Upstate Medical Center for over 20 years, as well as a decade at Crouse Medical Practice.



Leah Weinberg, MD

Dr. Weinberg completed her residency in internal medicine at SUNY Upstate Medical University. She has worked for 31 years taking care of patients in the emergency care setting at Auburn Memorial Hospital Emergency Care Unit (ECU) and subsequently worked at St Joseph's ECU in Syracuse.



Carol Ann Valentino, MD

Dr. Valentino, a Syracuse native, brings over 30 years in family medicine and medical expertise to PACE CNY. She received her B.S from Le Moyne College and went on to SUNY Upstate Medical Center for her M.D. Dr. Valentino completed her residency at St. Joseph's Hospital Family Medicine and was in private practice for over 20 years. While at St. Joseph's, she led the development of the Residency Program's Geriatric Component.



Suzanne Lamanna, MD

Dr. Lamanna received her Masters from St Bonaventure's and her D.O. from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her Family Medicine Residency training at St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse where she also served as chief resident. Dr. Lamanna worked in the St. Joseph Primary Care offices for five years before starting and maintaining her solo practice in Family Medicine in North Syracuse for two decades.



Jane M. Hudson, MD

A graduate of the University of Pittsburg School of Medicine, Dr Hudson completed her residency in Internal Medicine and a fellowship in Hematology/Oncology at SUNY Upstate Medical Center. After working at the Syracuse VA Medical Center with an academic appointment where she was instrumental in creating the Palliative Care/Hospice Program, she returned to internal medicine at Crouse Medical Practice. Dr. Hudson then went on to positions at Riverside Medical and Ascension Health.



Margaret Wade, PhD, DNP, FNP-C

Margie Wade joined the PACE CNY staff in 2003 and states, "I would want my elderly parent to be cared for by PACE. Participants here receive optimal care by a team of providers dedicated to each participant's well-being." Margie has 25 years of experience as a nurse practitioner and was a clinical assistant professor at SUNY Upstate Medical University College of Nursing for 10 years. She is board certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and is an active member of the Nurse Practitioner Association of New York State, Syracuse Chapter.



Desta Anthony, NP

Desta Anthony is a graduate of Upstate Medical University and was the owner of the independent Nurse Practitioner house call practice, MobileMed. In addition, she was a preceptor for the Nurse Practitioner program at Le Moyne College. Desta is a member of the American Academy of House Call Providers and is board certified with the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.



Jennifer Winiarczyk-Nalle, PMHNP-BC

Jennifer Winiarczyk-Nalle is a Board Certified Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. A native of Syracuse, she has worked locally as a Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Nurse and now Nurse Practitioner. Jennifer has over 20 years of experience working with the geriatric population; 7 of those years dedicated to patients suffering from Alzheimer's and/or dementia. Jennifer obtained her Master's Degree from Stony Brook University.



Christopher Norman, NP

Chris Norman is a Board Certified Geriatric Nurse Practitioner and Holistic Nurse. A native of the Southern Tier, he earned his Master's Degree with Honors at Yale University, completed an Advance Practice Nurse Fellowship in Geriatrics at NYU, and worked with University Geriatricians at Upstate Medical prior to coming to PACE. Chris is Board Certified through the American Nurse Credentialing Center.



Community Physician Waivers

Part of the PACE Federal Regulation requires that primary care be delivered by a PACE physician or nurse practitioner. PACE CNY was authorized to add up to ten physicians from the community using our approved community physician waiver.

The following physicians have contracted with PACE CNY to be part of the waiver program:

- Dr. Andrea Berg
- Dr. Sharon Brangman
- Dr. David Page
- Dr. Jeanne Bishop
- Dr. Dennis Daly

Sally Coyne Center

100 Malta Lane, North Syracuse, NY 13212

McAuliffe Health Center

115 Creek Circle, East Syracuse, NY 13057

Telephone: 315-452-5800 • TTY 800-662-1220
For outside the Onondaga County service area, call toll free 1-888-728-7223.

www.pacecny.org