

HEALTHCARE

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Turning off cancer's genetic switch

Photograph by Steve Zylius / UC Irvine

New chemical holds promise to block tumor growth in melanoma and rare cancers

For UCI Health dermatologist Dr. Anand K. Ganesan, a specialist in skin disorders and a prolific research scientist, fighting cancer requires painstaking work to assemble bits of genetic information to find potential tumor-blocking weapons.

He and his colleagues used this approach to create a new molecular compound, called ALY101, with the potential to stop the most aggressive type of skin cancer, melanoma, in its tracks — and possibly other cancers, too.

The chemical agent disrupted cellular processes that initiate growth and blood vessel formation, slowing tumor development for a variety of cancer types in mouse models.

Ganesan, a UCI School of Medicine professor who holds both a medical degree and a doctoral degree in microbiology and molecular genetics, compares finding the ALY101 molecule to Jenga, a popular game in which players take turns removing parts of a tower made of wooden blocks.

"A cancer cell is a big Jenga puzzle," he says. "We wanted to figure out which blocks — that is, genes — are the right ones to target. The first thing we did was to say, 'Let's take out each block, one by one, and see how to fix the puzzle.'"

But the goal wasn't to keep the tower of blocks intact, says the co-director of the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center's Biotechnology, Imaging & Drug discovery program.

Instead, he wanted to learn the role each gene plays, asking the question, "If we take away this gene, is the tumor still able to form? Does it stop tumors from spreading? What happens?"

Ganesan and his colleagues eventually found a melanoma gene that plays a role both in chemotherapy resistance and in cancer progression, findings that were published in the journal *Cancer Research* in 2012.

Then came the hardest part: figuring out how to switch off the finicky gene. "That's the real challenge because you have to target it when it's switched on," he says.

A key breakthrough came when Ganesan gave a lecture on his discoveries in Italy, where he spoke with Marco De Vivo. The director of the Italian Institute of Technology's Molecular Modeling and Drug Discovery Laboratory uses sophisticated computer modeling to test which chemicals are able to block a protein from binding to a specific spot on a cell.

Ganesan told De Vivo he was unable to identify a chemical agent that could block the melanoma gene because his target was unstable, flipping on and off. "Oh, that sounds interesting," De Vivo replied, and together they began testing molecular models to find a compound that would do the trick.

"There was a lot of trial and error, but we made a new chemical that has never been seen before," Ganesan says.

"We showed how this drug works. And we showed that it slows cancer growth in animal models."

ALY101 was developed with support from the National Institutes of Health and the UCI Anti-Cancer Challenge, the cancer center's annual fundraiser, which provided the initial seed money. The next step is to develop it as a clinical therapy.

"There's still a journey from having a drug that does this in our models and having a drug we can give to people," says Ganesan, who has created a startup company for that purpose with De Vivo and other partners. "That's the path we're on right now."

He's hopeful that ALY101 will not only help melanoma patients but also people with neurofibromas in the ear (tumors that can destroy hearing) and Ewing's sarcoma (a bone cancer that strikes young people).

"We're also looking at the drug for rare cancers," Ganesan says. "There are a lot of rare cancers we have no treatments for now."

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Providence partners with TGR Foundation, a Tiger Woods charity:

Addressing health disparities and guiding students toward health care careers



Kenya Beckmann, Providence South Chief Philanthropy Officer; Gordon McNeill, TGR Foundation President and CEO; and Providence physicians John Cross, M.D., and Derek Williams, M.D.

Providence Southern California and TGR Foundation, a Tiger Woods Charity, have formed a partnership that will serve youth and their families across Southern California by closing the gap on health inequities and igniting interest in health careers.

At the heart of the partnership is addressing health equity and inspiring a diverse workforce by providing meaningful career paths, access to health education and health care navigation. The program, known as Empowered Health, will operate out of the TGR Learning Lab, first established in 2006 in Anaheim.

“Providence lives its vision of health for a better world by partnering with like-hearted organizations to build upon each other’s strengths and create innovative and effective solutions,” said Kevin Manemann, chief executive, Providence South Division. “Based on the TGR Foundation model, Empowered Health is positioned to increase access to health care for families and also to help children explore career paths in the health field.”

The two organizations realized a dynamic synergy when they began working together in the early days of the pandemic to distribute COVID-19 care packages during peak surges. Providence mental health therapists have engaged with families and students served by TGR Foundation through a series of workshops in Spanish.

Empowered Health is an evolution of that solution-based team focus. It will invest in youth, families and the community by providing health education and easily accessible health programs that provide multi-generational care in a trusted environment that addresses routine as well as delicate adolescent and adult wellness topics.

This partnership is in line with the Providence mission of outreach to its communities. Employee surveys show this outreach resonates with caregivers at three Orange County Providence hospitals – Providence Mission Hospitals in Mission Viejo and Laguna Beach, Providence St. Joseph Hospital, Orange, and Providence St. Jude Medical Center in Fullerton – as well as Heritage physician groups and other services.

Empowered Health will complement existing TGR Foundation programs by focusing on health equity interventions, health education and workforce development. Equally important, Empowered Health will provide services in a welcoming environment for the whole family.



Health Equity

- Pop-up health clinics will provide free health screenings at the TGR Learning Lab.
- Empowered Health will provide multigenerational care that is focused on health equity interventions such as vaccines and blood pressure.
- When a higher level of care is needed, Providence will connect patients to providers.
- Providence will form community advisory panels to help guide care teams in designing culturally appropriate patient journeys, ensuring all patients experience exceptional care in a welcoming environment.

Health Education

- Empowered Health will provide webinars featuring health topics for children, adolescents and adults. The multilingual programs will focus on culturally sensitive adolescent and adult wellness topics.
- Health education events (online and in person) and health fairs will be hosted at the TGR Learning Lab.

Workforce Development

- Empowered Health will work to connect students’ passions to the variety of opportunities in health care careers through a dedicated pathway program.
- Through TGR Foundation’s Pathway Program, Providence will provide meaningful group and 1:1 experiences in addition to student mentoring from health care professionals.
- Mentorships and internships will provide opportunities for real-time and real-life experiences not available in a classroom setting while providing volunteer opportunities for Providence providers and caregivers.
- Community Health Worker programs will train students to work in public health, health care and social services. Since many Community Health Workers return to their neighborhoods, they can effectively build connections between at-risk communities and health care providers.

In recent years, Providence responded to the spotlight on inequities in communities of color by expanding its investment through a robust health equity program to provide resources including COVID vaccinations, health monitoring and links to primary care.

Last year, Providence provided \$299 million in grants and programs to help combat social determinants of mental and physical health including poverty, food insecurity, homelessness and chronic mental and physical conditions.

Providence and TGR Foundation are committed to creating health for a better world by reducing health disparities and resource inequities while improving the social factors that affect health. Through the partnership, both organizations are committed to investing in youth and empowering them to thrive.

“We look forward to partnering with Providence, an organization that shares our goal of empowering students to pursue their passions and achieve their dreams,” said Woods, who founded TGR Foundation.



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Clinical Quality Focus Elevates Hoag Orthopedic Institute Above the Rest

Division Chiefs of Spine, Sports Medicine and Joint Replacement Ensure Excellence

Hoag Orthopedic Institute (HOI) is the only premier, exclusive orthopedic and spine specialty healthcare organization with a hospital and ambulatory surgery center network serving Orange County. Heading into its 12th year of operation, HOI continues to focus on quality outcomes, patient experience, performance improvement, education and research, which is evident by its national recognitions.

HOI ranks 4th in the nation¹ for the most joint replacement surgeries performed and top in Orange County for spine surgeries. HOI is also the only hospital in Southern California and Top 3% in the Nation, to receive a 5-Star Hospital Patient Survey Star Rating by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). With the 3rd lowest readmission rate in the nation and incredibly low infection rate, it is no wonder more patients choose HOI for their orthopedic care.

One of the details that sets HOI apart from other hospitals and facilities is its dedicated experts who are clinically trained in orthopedic and spine surgeries. Not only are our physicians orthopedic and spine experts who are fellowship and specialty trained, but our staff are as well. Orthopedics and spine – it's all we do -- and our nursing, physical therapy and care team staff members focus exclusively on orthopedic and spine cases. You can rest assured that you are being cared for by the best of the best.

In addition, HOI has dedicated Division Chiefs of Spine, Sports Medicine and Joint Replacement surgery, who are laser-focused on ensuring these programs support our patients' outcomes.

Focus on Comprehensive Spine Care

HOI continues to lead Orange County in surgical spine care and we are now developing a non-surgical, conservative management program to increase continuity, outcomes and experience for patients across the enterprise.

"When patients come in for an evaluation at Hoag Orthopedic Institute, we are looking comprehensively at the patient to ensure they receive the optimal course of treatment," shared Jeremy Smith, MD, Division Chief of Spine Surgery at HOI. "Non-operative methods are routinely the first line of treatment. If surgery is later indicated, we utilize the most up-to-date and advanced technology that helps guide and optimize the surgical approach in the most minimally invasive way, all while ensuring we maximize the safety of the patient."

Not all spine care is deemed to be surgical in nature, as many spine conditions get better without surgical intervention. The new program at HOI will help identify the most effective pathway for treatment, whether non-surgical or surgical.

Sports Medicine Program Expands

HOI's sports medicine physicians and surgeons continue to serve the community through volunteering with local and professional sports organizations. In 2022, Hoag Orthopedic Institute, in partnership with Hoag, became the Official Orthopedic & Sports Medicine partner of the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section (CIF-SS).

"It is imperative that young athletes have the same access to care as professional athletes in order to continue their success on and off the field, and HOI looks forward to developing this partnership with CIF further, as well as with our other partnerships with youth sports organizations and schools

across Orange County and Southern California," shared HOI Division Chief of Sports Medicine, David Gazzaniga, MD, who also serves as a team physician for the Los Angeles Chargers.

HOI's sports medicine program is dedicated to conducting research, identifying problems, educating, preventing injuries and training other sports medicine doctors.

Joint Replacement

According to the recent report by Orthopedic Network News, HOI also performs the highest volume of outpatient joint replacements of any organization. The move to outpatient total joint procedures has grown since 2015, and now the Day of Surgery Program has a specific set of specially trained orthopedic nurses who oversee the discharge of patients the same day of their surgery to ensure their successful recovery at home.

HOI's Division Chief of Joint Replacement, Nader Nassif, MD, says the reason for the program's success comes down to research and education, innovation, and patient experience.

"Over the past decade, HOI has been really involved in education and research from teaching the next generation of surgeons through our fellowships. We are continually improving our processes and technology and evaluating our patients for optimal outcomes," Dr. Nassif said.

In addition to the Day of Surgery expansion, HOI has also added robot technology to assist with joint replacements at surgery centers and hospital.

"Robots in general don't make a surgeon better, but the next generation of robotic devices have the potential to augment a good surgeon's skill because they are compact, easy to use and can help assist with more precision during surgery," he added.

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When it comes to orthopedic and spine care, no one is better at getting you, back to you. HOI is not just several convenient locations in your Orange County backyard, but OC's only specialty hospital and ambulatory surgery center network whose dedication to patient outcomes, safety and experience sets it apart from the rest. HOI is honored to once again be named the #1 hospital in Orange County and among the Top 1% in the nation by U.S. News & World Report's "2022-2023 Best Hospitals List" for orthopedics², and "High Performing" in Spinal Fusion, Hip Fracture, Hip Replacement, and Knee Replacement.

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¹Source: OrthopedicNetworkNews.com Volume 33, Number 3, August 2022

²Source: U.S. News Best Hospitals for Orthopedics 2022-2023: <https://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals/rankings/orthopedics>



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Hope Lives Here: Early Interventions, Highly Specialized Care Are Key to Cervical Cancer Treatment



Seth A. Cohen, M.D., F.A.C.S., a urologic surgeon and urogynecologist, and Joshua G. Cohen, M.D., F.A.C.O.G., F.A.C.S., medical director of the gynecologic cancer program at City of Hope Orange County.

Cervical cancer is the fourth most prevalent cancer in women worldwide and more than 14,000 Americans develop cervical cancer each year.

While overall rates of cervical cancer are decreasing, new studies have shown that late-stage cervical cancer rates are increasing in the U.S., particularly in women 30-34 years of age and in diverse demographics. The cause is unknown but missed screenings could be a factor, experts say.

“If caught early, cervical cancer is highly treatable. These alarming trends in late-stage rates of cervical cancer point to the importance of screening and of seeking highly specialized care if diagnosed with a gynecologic cancer such as cervical cancer,” said Joshua G. Cohen, M.D., F.A.C.O.G., F.A.C.S., a board-certified gynecologic oncologist and medical director of the gynecologic cancer program at City of Hope Orange County.

City of Hope Orange County is offering new hope for women with cervical and other gynecologic cancers, along with world-renowned expertise in gynecologic cancer prevention, urogynecology and gynecologic specialty services.

City of Hope has developed Orange County’s most advanced and comprehensive program for gynecologic oncology and urogynecologic care. The program offers a broad range of expertise in cancer treatment, complex non-cancerous gynecologic disorders, urogynecology and pelvic floor dysfunction.

Patients have access to the latest in “previvorship” prevention, diagnosis, treatment, innovative phase one to three clinical trials, and survivorship care — all providing the greatest hope for recovery and quality of life.

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- Individually customized chemotherapy regimens, including novel drugs and drug combinations in our clinical trials program

At City of Hope Orange County, a multidisciplinary team pursues an integrated approach to treating cervical cancer by combining the latest research findings with specialized patient care. Patients have access to the most advanced specialized care in fertility preservation, management of chronic HPV infection, and survivorship.

Dr. Joshua Cohen works alongside his twin brother, Seth A. Cohen, M.D., F.A.C.S., a urologic surgeon, urogynecologist, and program director of the reconstructive urology and cancer survivorship fellowship at City of Hope. Dr. Seth Cohen works to improve quality of life for patients with pelvic floor conditions. He manages the side effects related to gynecologic cancers and cancer treatments such as pelvic organ prolapse and urinary incontinence.

For those diagnosed with cancer, new treatments offer better outcomes and fertility and organ-sparing options. Immunotherapy is showing promise, especially in overcoming cancers caused by HPV infection. Treatment involves drugs that activate the immune system to target cancer cells. These include medications that re-engineer T-cells to attack cancer.

There are new paradigm shifts in the management of cervical cancer that are offering new hope to patients and their families.

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Carolina Weidler
Principal and Director of the
Science & Technology Studio



METAGENICS CLINIC
Aliso Viejo, CA



Kong Nguyen
Director of the Healthcare
& Wellness Studio

REIMAGINING HEALTHCARE AND WELLNESS SPACES FOR THE FUTURE

We can't ignore the impacts that the last few years have had on our everyday existence. They affected every aspect of our day, how we work, how we socialize, how we shop, and how we take care of ourselves. Public and private spaces have made adjustments post-pandemic, but none more than those providing healthcare and wellness: hospitals, doctor's offices, urgent care clinics, countless ambulatory surgical centers, and specialized practitioners. Telemedicine can only do so much, meaning places that required in-person contact quickly made changes to satisfy their clients and ease their fears. Many of us who postponed regular check-ups and non-urgent or elective treatments are just now booking those appointments, and the floodgates of medical care are open.

Increasingly, those healthcare and wellness providers looking for changes have come to designers like H. Hendy Associates (Hendy) in Newport Beach for consultation and solutions. At Hendy, Carolina Weidler, Principal and Director of the Science & Technology Studio works closely with Kong Nguyen, Director of the Healthcare & Wellness Studio to problem-solve. Together they design spaces that provide patients and providers healthy and welcoming environments. Spaces that make people start to feel better the moment they walk through the door.

While many businesses no longer require six-foot social distancing, they are retaining the important lessons learned from the pandemic. Modernized wayfinding in facilities keep bodies in motion and ease patient anxiety; upgraded HEPA filtered HVAC systems and indoor greenery improve air quality; contactless technologies reduce touchpoints of transmission; and outdoor spaces have become more utilized for waiting areas and communal settings.

HERE ARE SOME OF HENDY'S INSIGHTS FOR HEALTHCARE AND WELLNESS PROVIDERS LOOKING TO MAKE THESE CHANGES:

- **Personalized Care for a Memorable Patient Experience:**

Physicians and health systems are realizing that a patient's overall experience during a visit matters. It's not enough to hang a flat screen TV and place magazines on a coffee table. Wellbeing and healing should start the moment a patient arrives. Waiting rooms are often the most neglected spaces supplying a bare minimum of comfort. In reality, they are the first impression and face of a business; and shouldn't be relegated to an afterthought. There are many details to take into account including furniture, lighting, acoustics, privacy screens, and more.

- **Making Space for Technological Innovation:**

The miracle of modern medicine increasingly advances through improvements in technology and the introduction of new tools and systems. With those new machines and equipment comes a need to reevaluate and reassign space in exam rooms and treatment areas. In essence a "resizing" must occur. For example, x-ray imaging has become so sophisticated that some new machines occupy half the space of the older ones, essentially freeing up valuable real estate for other purposes. Additionally, some doctors are providing high-tech consultation rooms equipped with screens for presentations to educate a patient before a procedure.

- **Healthcare Employees Also Deserve Happiness:**

While all these exciting changes are happening in healthcare offices and buildings with the goal of benefitting patients, employers must not lose sight of the vital role that healthcare employees play and how company culture plays a big part in retaining them. The medical field is widely specialized and notoriously hard to staff. A happy employee is a loyal employee, and investments in creating a good workplace pay off in the long run. In this competitive job market, employers are wise to create environments that also cater to their workers and show them they are valued.

- **Wellness is Everywhere:**

Hendy's work in providing healthy environments is not limited to healthcare spaces as we have the capability to provide the WELL building standard in any of our designs, be it a multifamily building or corporate headquarters. Here at Hendy, our experienced team of WELL-accredited, licensed interior architects have been guiding Orange County businesses through space planning for over 40 years, creating workplace environments that promote employee wellbeing, deliver on business objectives and provide optimal return on investment.

Hendy's complete redesign of Metagenics' 5,000-square-foot Aliso Viejo clinic is a great example of our capabilities. The final space included chiropractic and massage therapy rooms, as well as rooms for lifestyle education and lab work. The company's emphasis on health and wellness influenced the design team to create an environment with the goal of putting people first – whether that meant patients, health care providers or employees. Extensive research on traditional medical offices as well as progressive clinics ultimately lead to an open and flexible design, embracing the future of technological advancements. Biophilic elements were tied in with natural materials, organic patterns, and daylight infuses as many patient-facing areas as possible. This is just one example of what Hendy is capable of providing to clients.



We will continue to grow and innovate at Hendy, with driven leaders, strong company culture, and amazingly talented people. Our Healthcare and Wellness studio is just one part of what we are doing.

H. Hendy Associates is an Orange County-based interior architecture and planning firm commemorating over 40 years in business. Studio leads oversee the design development and project operations for a prestigious list of clients including Behr Paint Company, SAP and Kawasaki, among others. Their offerings span five studios: Corporate, Currents, Healthcare & Wellness, Lifestyle and Science & Technology.

CELEBRATING AO'S RISING STARS!



We are thrilled to announce the promotion of several outstanding team members. Please join us in congratulating the following Rising Stars who have been elevated to new leadership roles at AO!



DIEGO ALESSI,
PLA, ASLA
Partner



IOANNA MAGIATI,
ARCHITECT
Partner



TREVOR MORALES,
ARCHITECT
Partner



MIKE CONNELL
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Accounting



VICKIE M. OSHIMA
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JEFF SIMON
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DIMITRIOS TOLIOS
Associate



ROGER VASQUEZ
Associate



GISELE WALTER,
ARCHITECT
Associate

Women's Health Pavilion redefining the care experience

MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center is building the future of women's healthcare with its forthcoming Women's Health Pavilion, which will provide convenient access to exceptional breast care and a full range of women's health services. A phased opening of the Sarah & Taylor Nederlander Breast Center, the only integrated breast cancer center in Orange County with a breast oncologist, breast surgeon and breast reconstruction surgeon under one roof, will begin in the fall of 2023. The breast center will provide women with streamlined and elevated care in a comfortable, spa-like environment, short wait times, access to same-day appointments, and expedited screening results. The campus will also give patients access to the area's only on-site transition retail shop focused on the needs of cancer patients, to help them feel confident and achieve a sense of their pre-cancer selves.

"After years of planning, it's incredibly fulfilling to see our vision for women's healthcare coming to life right here in Orange County," said Marcia Manker, CEO, MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center. "We'll open our doors in 2023 and welcome women to experience a new, integrated and holistic approach to health and wellness."



Raising the bar in patient experience, the Pavilion will be a haven for women's health and wellbeing. MemorialCare will offer personalized care provided by world-renowned specialists in breast care, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology, sexual health, and mental health. It also will offer the first-of-its-kind free-standing pelvic floor rehab program with a dedicated pelvic floor physical therapist on the campus. Obstetricians located in the Women's Health Pavilion will work closely with nursing, high-risk perinatologists and neonatologists at The Women's Hospital at Saddleback Medical Center, directly across the street. The Women's Health Pavilion will include space for maternity care tied to hospitalists and perinatologists at The Women's Hospital at Saddleback Medical Center.

Setting itself apart from other Orange County health centers, the Women's Health Pavilion will feature a holistic approach to healthcare. The care teams will celebrate each stage of a woman's life, being by her side and her fiercest advocate from birth to older adulthood—and everything in between. The goal of the Women's Health Pavilion is to become a center of wellness for the women of Orange County.

The Community Education Center, on the second floor of the the Women's Health Pavilion, will expand health and wellness educational offerings not only to patients but the entire community. As a nonprofit organization, MemorialCare seeks to benefit its communities by offering educational services, including preventive care and elevating health and wellness knowledge within the community. The \$80 million Women's Health Pavilion will be a three-story, 40,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility in which the community has every resource to address and treat their health concerns or continue their wellness journey.

To learn more, visit [memorialcare.org/women](https://www.memorialcare.org/women)



THE VISIONARY BREAST CENTER


Sarah and Taylor Nederlander, who grew up in south Orange County, have gifted \$2.5 million for the Pavilion's Breast Center through the Harry J. Nederlander Foundation. With plans to elevate the quality of care for women affected by breast cancer, the integrated breast center will honor their commitment to compassionate care and will be named the Sarah & Taylor Nederlander Breast Center. Offering state-of-the-art technology and expedited screening results, the Breast Center will nearly double the number of patients served each year. MemorialCare aims to transform breast care for their patients by cultivating an environment where patients can have their every need assessed, treated and cared for in one places.

"Early detection is essential to the successful treatment of breast cancer, and the new Sarah & Taylor Nederlander Breast Center will help us continue to save more lives," said Gary Levine, M.D., Medical Director of MemorialCare Breast Centers, and internationally recognized breast cancer expert. "We are beyond grateful for Taylor and Sarah Nederlander's generous gift, which will allow us to ensure that more women have access to the most advanced breast care in a modern, spacious healing environment with the most advanced technology."

CELEBRATING HOLISTIC WELLNESS

Serving the ever-evolving needs of the women of Orange County, MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center's Women's Health Pavilion will raise the standard of care for the community. The services, staff, technology, equipment and facilities will not only improve the lives of women but reinvent how systems approach modern healthcare. The services offered will cater to overall wellness, and every woman living through conception, hormonal issues, breast cancer, pelvic pain, osteoporosis, menopause, mental health issues and more. Today's modern women inspired the vision for creating the Women's Health Pavilion, prompting MemorialCare to challenge traditional healthcare practices and create new ways to treat patients. Honoring the busy lives of Orange County women in their pursuit of wellness, MemorialCare seeks to provide healthcare in an efficient, streamlined, holistic way at the Women's Health Pavilion. Carefully tailoring healthcare to each patient, MemorialCare offers individualized, comprehensive treatment and a lifetime wellness partnership. The Women's Health Pavilion will ensure exceptional care for the women of Orange County and their families for years to come.

We invite you to help transform the future of women's healthcare in south Orange County. Charitable gifts toward the Women's Health Pavilion strengthen MemorialCare's educational and patient-centered programs. Opportunities to name spaces in the new Women's Health Pavilion range from \$50,000 to \$5 million, and Saddleback Medical Center Foundation is partnering now with grateful patients, community members and others who want to be involved in this transformative project.


MemorialCare[™]
Saddleback Medical Center

WOMEN'S HEALTH PAVILION



Building the future of women's health together.

At MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center, we're pushing healthcare forward. Our Women's Health Pavilion will offer a full array of women's health services — including the new Sarah & Taylor Nederlander Breast Center — all in one state-of-the-art location. Across the street, we're refreshing our Women's Hospital with newly renovated, private labor-delivery-recovery-postpartum suites and a new OB Emergency Department. **One campus. One community. One commitment to women's best health, now and far into the future.**

Learn more at
memorialcare.org/womenshealth


MemorialCare[™]
Saddleback Medical Center



MODERN HEALTHCARE:

The Top 3 Most Influential Design Trends

Healthcare remains constantly on the leading edge, driving innovation worldwide, and particularly here in Orange County where health, wellness, and quality of life are highly valued. As architects and planners, our goal is to meet that innovation head on, responding with design and programming solutions that allow medical providers to deliver the highest quality patient care. Looking ahead into the new year, we've listened to clients and surveyed our team of architects and designers to uncover the most influential design trends, helping to define modern healthcare spaces for generations to come.

Mixed-Use Healthcare Campuses

The rise of mixed-use development has been a formidable trend that continues to expand across market sectors, merging healthcare uses with retail, hospitality, office, residential, restaurant, fitness, spa, and entertainment. Today, these spaces are merging to establish 'Medtail' developments that aim to bring primary care closer to patients and communities. Similarly, the future of the healthcare campus combines wellness, community, and convenience to match the 360-degree approach to patient care adopted by modern healthcare organizations. These developments incorporate a variety of lifestyle uses that meet the short and long-term needs of patients and visitors, as well as physicians, nurses, workers, and allied health professionals.

The success of a mixed-use or 'Medtail' campus can be measured by the symbiotic relationship and resulting efficiency achieved between the different functions. A purposeful blend of uses may be focused on several facilities delivering different acuity levels of patient care – such as the incorporation of assisted senior living, skilled nursing, memory care facilities, medical office buildings, or ambulatory surgery centers on a single campus – to the addition of on-site restaurants, specialty retail, childcare, grocery, banks, and more. Understanding the nuances of each building type and how to create synergy amongst uses, AO is well equipped to design the right solutions that balances the client's vision, healthcare facility operations, community needs, and market demands.

Contextual Community Design

As the healthcare landscape continues to evolve, patients are relying more and more on alternative treatment centers such as urgent care, outpatient clinics, and surgery centers. These facilities are often more convenient, less costly, and safer options for patients looking to avoid crowded hospital waiting rooms. Additionally, neighborhood healthcare facilities are an attractive draw for physicians and employees who enjoy the convenience of working close to home and serving their local community. Located central to neighborhoods, these care centers welcome a new level of contextual design reflective of the community they serve. Here, we are seeing designs that focus on placemaking, complementing the neighborhood character and celebrating the community identity to offer patients a sense of belonging and familiarity.

Design Fusion of Health and Hospitality

Across all healthcare spaces, the medical community recognizes the key role that hospitality design plays in establishing spaces that are welcoming, comforting, and inviting. Long established as a key design philosophy for senior living, assisted living and skilled nursing facilities, the fusion of healthcare and hospitality design is influencing all types of medical spaces such as urgent care, ambulatory surgery centers, and particularly taking root in behavioral health facilities. Designers are transforming cold, sterile environments into soothing spaces that deliver a positive mind-body experience. Uniquely positioned to respond to this growing trend, AO's Healthcare studio collaborates with our award-winning Hospitality and Interiors studios to deliver design solutions that elevate the client and patient experience.

Celebrating nearly 50 years of delivering relationship-based architecture, design, and planning from our headquarters in Orange, CA, AO is dedicated to helping clients and communities create spaces where people and business flourish. We successfully collaborate with organizations, developers, cities, and jurisdictions, including entities such as HCAI, CDPH, and VA to bring community visions to life. We bring together the best, most creative minds in healthcare, retail, commercial, multifamily, hospitality and more to deliver dynamic mixed-use destinations.



As your trusted design partner, let AO's proven experience and diverse expertise ensure that your healthcare space thrives for generations to come.

Visit us at aoarchitects.com

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- Carolina Weidler, *Lean Six Sigma*



"Work environments today are truly meant to build social capital and create a culture that keeps employees motivated and connected to the organization."

- Susan Dwyer, *NCARB Architect*



CAROLINA WEIDLER
MANAGING PRINCIPAL
Lean Six Sigma Black Belt

SUSAN DWYER
MANAGING PRINCIPAL
NCARB Architect

