



# SUNY DOWNSTATE Medical Center

University Hospital of Brooklyn  
at Long Island College Hospital

## The Otolaryngology Department at Downstate Long Island College Hospital

***Comprehensive, Patient-Centered Care for Disorders of the  
Ears, Nose, Throat, Head, and Neck***

The good health of our ears, nose, throat, and head and neck areas are vital to our senses and overall well-being. Otolaryngology is a medical specialty that involves the diagnosis, treatment, and management of diseases and disorders of these structures. Physicians trained and skilled in this specialty are called otolaryngologists, but are more commonly known as ear-nose-throat (ENT) doctors. You can see an otolaryngologist directly or you may be referred by your primary care physician if you have a condition of the ENT or head and neck areas that is frequent, persistent or severe, and requires more thorough evaluation and treatment.

### ***Otolaryngology at LICH: The Three "C"s***

The Otolaryngology Department at Long Island College of Hospital of Brooklyn provides *compassionate, comprehensive, culturally sensitive* care to patients from infancy through senior adulthood. Our *patient-focused* and *patient-friendly* services are delivered by topnotch physicians, nurses and office personnel, and we have full access to related specialists and advanced technologies at LICH.

All our otolaryngologists are board-certified and fellowship-trained, and some have earned national or international recognition. We are active in research, teaching and education, and serve as the main clinical site of the State University of New York (SUNY)-Downstate Medical Center's otolaryngology residency program.

### ***Diagnosis and Treatment***

Here at LICH Otolaryngology we believe strongly in shared decision-making between physician and patient to ensure that treatment after diagnosis is tailored according to individual health care needs. Our team is highly skilled in the complete range of ENT and head and neck diseases and disorders.

### **The Ears**

We provide medical and/or surgical treatment for:

- middle-ear infections
- external ear-canal inflammation (swimmer's ear)
- tinnitus (ringing in the ears)
- wax buildup

- perforated eardrum
- hearing loss
- balance problems
- cholesteatomas (invasive ear cysts)
- tumors of the ear and skull base
- obstruction by foreign bodies
- ear trauma or injury

Our auditory diagnostics include *audiometry* and *otoacoustic emissions* to assess hearing; *tympometry* to measure middle-ear function; and *binocular microscopy* to offer a detailed view of the ear. We also perform *balance testing* and *video endoscopy*, which renders enlarged images of the ear as well as the nose and throat.

For patients with profound hearing loss, options may include *cochlear implantation* or implantation of *bone anchored hearing aids*. Cochlear implants require surgery under general anesthesia and electrically stimulate the hearing nerve to produce sound. Bone anchored hearing aids also are surgically implanted, but enable sound to be conducted through bone instead of the middle ear.

### **The Nose**

Our care of the nasal cavity encompasses:

- allergy testing and treatment
- endoscopic and open sinus surgery to treat sinus infections
- surgical correction of deviated or perforated septum
- functional and cosmetic rhinoplasty
- nasal turbinate surgery to reduce nasal bones blocking the airway
- surgical correction of choanal atresia (congenital blockage of the nasal passage)
- removal of nasal polyps, benign and malignant tumors, and foreign bodies
- repair of nasal trauma or fracture

We also address diminished sense of smell, acute and chronic nose bleeds, nasal discharge and nasal obstruction.

### **The Throat**

Our expertise in the throat area extends from the tongue to the larynx (voice box) to the esophagus. We evaluate and treat voice and swallowing problems, frequent or persistent sore throat or cough, gastroesophageal reflux disease, breathing difficulties and sleep disorders. Additionally, we perform a range of procedures that include:

- traditional or intracapsular (partial) tonsillectomies
- surgical removal of infected adenoids and throat masses and abscesses
- tracheal and laryngeal surgery to clear airway obstructions
- surgical repair of tongue tie (a condition that limits the tongue's mobility)
- surgical correction of velopharyngeal insufficiency (a condition that emits food through the nose)
- pharyngeal surgery to remedy sleep apnea

Patients with vocal cord ailments benefit greatly from our use of *laryngeal stroboscopy*, a high -tech diagnostic tool that provides stop-motion views of vocal cord activity, leading to enhanced assessment of voice problems.

## **The Head and Neck**

We attend to an array of problems associated with the head and neck area, which contains critical nerves that control our senses and facial movement, and produces hormones that regulate body functions. Our head and neck services include:

- treatment for abscesses and infections
- removal of cysts, benign growths and congenital masses
- therapy for pituitary tumors
- parathyroid and thyroid gland surgery
- parotid gland (cheek gland) surgery
- skull base surgery
- care of facial paralysis
- surgery for facial fractures and trauma

### *Head and Neck Cancer*

Patients with benign and malignant tumors that develop in the head and neck region receive comprehensive management. Our head and neck specialists are fellowship-trained in ENT cancers, and team with pathologists, ENT radiologists, radiation oncologists, medical oncologists and other specialists in the Othmer Cancer Center to provide the best treatment options available. We review cases at our twice-monthly multidisciplinary tumor conference, where collaboration leads to optimal cancer care.

### ***Pediatric Otolaryngology***

For children and teens with special ENT needs, we view treatment in the context of their development and overall quality of life. And we recognize the importance of working with the family unit and its primary care doctor, as well as with the child himself or herself, to ensure that informed decisions are made and care is personalized for the patient.

In addition to the wide range of general ENT services, our pediatric otolaryngology program offers treatment for speech and language acquisition disorders, and chronic ear problems such as infections and middle-ear fluid. In many instances, the two are related. We have significant experience in ear-tube implantation, a common surgical procedure that greatly reduces the incidence of infection and ventilates the middle ear.

Our pediatric presurgical program, administered in conjunction with the Division of Pediatric Anesthesiology, puts our younger patients (and their parents) at ease and allays any fears they may have about surgery. We arrange a child-friendly educational session, at which time the family can ask questions of the pediatric anesthesiologist, and view an informative video in preparation for surgery.

### ***Division of Communicative Disorders***

Staffed by highly trained audiologists, our Division of Communicative Disorders provides more specialized tests for hearing, hearing loss and balance, as well as auditory training for patients who have undergone cochlear implantation. The division's specialists conduct newborn hearing screenings and followup; hearing tests for individuals with cognitive deficits; evaluation for cochlear implant candidacy; central auditory processing tests; and *electronystamography*, a sophisticated balance assessment for people with vertigo.

### ***Reconstructive and Cosmetic Surgery***

For patients in need of repair of facial deformities or reconstruction following surgery, our department collaborates closely with head and neck surgeons to ensure that treatment methods are functionally appropriate. Our on-staff cosmetic surgeon, specializing in rhinoplasty, also performs such cosmetic procedures as Botox injection, face lifts, brow lifts, eyelid lifts and blepharoplasty to remove bags under the eyes.

### **The Otolaryngology Department at Downstate Long Island College Hospital 134 Atlantic Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11201**

Appointments preferred; walk-ins accepted  
Call 718-780-1498

Most insurances accepted

#### **Physician List:**

Richard M. Rosenfeld, MD, MPH

Krishnamurthi Sundaram, MD

Boris Bentsianov, MD

Marina Boruk, MD

Sydney C. Butts, MD

Ari J. Goldsmith, MD

Matthew B. Hanson, MD

Abraham Shulman, MD

Joshua B. Silverman, MD, PhD

#### **Clinical Interests**

Professor and Chairman  
Dr. Rosenfeld is an international authority on guideline development, evidence-based medicine, and otitis media (middle ear infections)

Head and neck oncology, thyroid, parathyroid, sinuses, larynx and trachea

Laryngology, voice and swallowing disorders

Medical and surgical management of the nose and paranasal sinuses

Facial and plastic reconstructive surgery

Pediatric bronchoesophagy, otology, upper airway reflux in children, and pediatric head and neck surgery

Otology and Neurotology - this includes disorders of balance, of the facial nerve, and disorders of hearing and cochlear implantation.

Hearing loss, tinnitus, and vertigo

pediatric and adult Laryngology, voice and swallowing problems, treatment of pediatric head and neck masses, and pediatric obstructive sleep apnea.

Neil M. Sperling, MD

Cochlear Implant and implantable hearing devices, inner ear disease and hearing loss

Richard W. Westreich, MD

Facial trauma reconstruction, facial cosmetic surgery and related procedures

**For more information about these physicians, please visit:**  
**<http://www.downstate.edu/otolaryngology/faculty.html>**