



Melvin J. Rivera,  
PharmD, BCOP

**MBTI:** INFJ

**Core Values:** Hard Work, Respect,  
Loyalty, Compassion, Determination

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** coaching my kids baseball and softball teams, watching sports, watching movies

**Favorite book:** Extreme ownership

**Favorite sport:** Baseball, Boxing, Football

**Favorite place to travel:** Home (Massachusetts to see family) and loved Barcelona

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** Clinical Oncology Pharmacist

**Specialty:** Thoracic Medical Oncology

**Institution:** MD Anderson Cancer Center

**Professional interests:** Education, Leadership, Mentoring

**Expertise:** Clinical, Education

**Years in Practice:** 13 years

## MY WHY

**What difference do you want to make?** I want to help patients and their families feel educated regarding their treatment, as well as helping manage their toxicities throughout their cancer journey. I also want to share my experiences with other health care professionals to bring awareness of the potential role of pharmacist on the healthcare team.



**Ashley Martinez,  
DNP, APRN**

**MBTI:** ESFJ

**Core Values:** Honesty,  
Accountability, Respect, and  
Commitment

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** Traveling, Crafts, Puzzles

**Favorite book: Recent:** Super Soul  
Conversations

**Favorite sport:** American Football

**Favorite place to travel:** Anywhere with good  
views and good food 😊

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** Nurse

**Specialty:** Oncology

**Institution:** MD Anderson Cancer Center

**Professional interests:** Improving patient outcomes, nursing  
leadership

**Expertise:** Clinical (breast medical oncology), Quality  
Improvement

**Years in Practice:** 10

## MY WHY

**What difference do you want to make?**

Improving patient outcomes through process improvement  
while creating methods that are sustainable and  
transferable to other care settings Additionally, inspiring  
other nurses through transformational leadership.



Naoto T. Ueno,  
MD, PhD, FACP

**MBTI:** INTJ

**Core Values:** loyalty, honesty, and innovation

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** Technology, Travel, Foodie,  
**Favorite book:** Natsume Soseki, Quiet by Susan Caine  
**Favorite sport:** Ski, Golf  
**Favorite place to travel:** Hawaii, Italy, Turkey

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** Physician

**Specialty:** Medical Oncologist

**Institution:** MD Anderson Cancer Center

**Professional interests:** Early Drug Development, Biomarker Discovery, Mentorship, Leadership, Team Development.

**Expertise:** Clinical, Research, Leadership, Event Planning

**Years in Practice:** 30 years

## MY WHY

**What difference do you want to make?** Change the world for a better life for patients with aggressive breast cancer through clinical/translational research. I would like to see others succeed by committing to mentorship/relationship development.



Janis Apted  
Yadiny,  
Consultant

**MBTI:** INFP

**Core Values:** Love, Family,  
Integrity, Compassion, Learning

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** Reading, Zooming,

**Favorite book:** Biographies of powerful women

**Favorite sport:** Skiing (which I no longer do)

**Favorite place to travel:** Anywhere with my husband. Morocco is a favorite

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** Consultant and Professional Coach

**Specialty:** Coaching, working with teams, leadership development

**Institution:** Self-employed

**Professional interests:** Leadership, career development, teams

**Expertise:** Leadership and teams in healthcare

**Years in Practice:** 46 years of professional work, 12 as a coach

## MY WHY

**What difference do you want to make?** I want to catalyze transformative change in individuals, groups and teams with heart and the courage to be honest, caring and insightful.



Joyce Neumann PhD,  
APRN, AOCN, BMTCN,  
FAAN

Program Director, SCT/APRN/Adjuvant  
Ethicist

**Core Values:** honesty, integrity,  
loyalty

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** biking, walking, playing with  
grandchildren

**Favorite book:** Where the crawdads sing

**Favorite sport:** basketball

**Favorite place to travel:** Japan, Europe

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** nurse – advance practice nurse

**Specialty:** oncology, stem cell transplantation

**Institution:** MD Anderson Cancer Center

**Professional interests:** moral distress, professional burnout,  
SCT QOL, ACP, graft versus host disease

**Expertise:** Clinical, research, education

**Years in Practice:** 47 years as nurse, 40 years advance  
practice nurse

## MY WHY

**What difference do you want to make?** Promote  
and support ethical practice in order to provide  
realistic and holistic oncology care that is  
interdisciplinary.



Neelam K. Patel,  
PharmD, BCOP

**MBTI:** INFJ

**Core Values:** Honesty, Integrity,  
Compassion, Respect

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** reading, painting, traveling

**Favorite book:** recently read: Educated

**Favorite sport:** tennis, college football

**Favorite place to travel:** anywhere! Iceland  
was a favorite place of mine to travel

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** Clinical Oncology Pharmacist

**Specialty:** Breast Med Onc and Endocrine  
Neoplasia

**Institution:** MD Anderson Cancer Center

**Professional interests:** Education, Leadership

**Expertise:** would say education

**Years in Practice:** 9.5 years

## MY WHY

**What difference do you want to make?** My “why” relates to helping patients through education and evidence-based medicine to retain as much of a sense of “normalcy” through their cancer treatment as possible. This includes helping with supportive care and management of side effects as well as setting expectations for therapy.



Theresa Johnson-  
Foreman

MBTI: ENFP

Core Values: Honesty,  
Kindness, Work Ethic

## PERSONAL

Hobbies: Cooking and trying new restaurants,  
Travel

Favorite book: Don't have one

Favorite sport: Football

Favorite place to travel: Any beach or Italy

## PROFESSIONAL

Occupation: Nurse

Area of practice: Sarcoma

Institution: UTMDAnderson Cancer Center

Professional interests: Leadership, Quality,  
Mentoring

Expertise: Leadership, Quality

## MY WHY

Mission: To create a working environment that is healthy and positive for all.

Vision: Maintain a high standard while supporting those who work on the team.

Impact: To develop the highest standard of operations for our patients and clinicians.



Chantal Reyna, MD

**MBTI:** ESFJ

**Core Values:** Integrity, Optimism,  
Compassion

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** Reading, traveling

**Favorite book:** Pride and Prejudice vs Harry Potter

**Favorite sport:** Soccer

**Favorite place to travel:** Cambodia; UK

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** Physician

**Specialty:** Breast Surgical Oncology

**Institution:** University of Cincinnati

**Professional interests:** Axillary management; minimizing surgical intervention

**Expertise:** Axilla, male breast cancer

**Years in Practice:** 7

## MY WHY

**What difference do you want to make?**

Eliminate axillary surgery in breast cancer treatment





Zhongxing Liao,  
MD

**MBTI:** INJP

**Core Values:** Integrity, Compassion,  
innovation

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** Reading, traveling, gardening

**Favorite book:** 1421: The Year China Discovered America

**Favorite sport:** Taichi, Yoga

**Favorite place to travel:** Tibet, Thailand,  
Bordeaux

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** (physician, nurse, pharmacist, etc), Physician

**Specialty:** Thoracic Radiation Oncology

**Institution:** MDACC

**Professional interests:** Patient care, Clinical and translation research,  
prospective clinical trial, strategic planning and organizing clinical  
research program, training and education, international collaboration

**Expertise:** Clinical, research, education, policy,

**Years in Practice:** 21

## MY WHY

### **What difference do you want to make?**

My “why” relates to my personal mission to “Offer the best treatment to every patient.” Clinical and translational research is the only way to develop the best treatment and education and training is important to increase awareness and understanding of cutting edge therapy for physicians, medical staff, patients, and public.



Nicholas "Nick"  
Szewczyk, APRN,  
MSN, ANP-C  
MBTI: ISTP  
Core Values: Honesty, Fairness,  
Family, Humor

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** Jogging, Listening to Music, Playing with my Dog

**Favorite book:** Currently Reading *Mandela, The Authorized Biography* by Anthony Sampson

**Favorite sport:** Football and Basketball

**Favorite place to travel:** I would love to travel anywhere at this point!

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

**Specialty:** Stem Cell Transplant / Cellular Therapy

**Institution:** MD Anderson Cancer Center

**Professional interests:** Cancer Rehabilitation, Education, QI of Clinical Pathways

**Expertise:** Clinical and educating team members

**Years in Practice:** 22 years as a Registered Nurse, 16 years as an Advanced Practice Nurse

## MY WHY

I have been in nursing long enough to see real improvement and excellence in patient care; from treatment modalities, to education of patients and staff, and clinical modalities (ways we see and treat our patients). Yet there is still patient suffering and there are still deficiencies in our health care systems. I not only want to continue to improve of this for our patients, but also for myself as a healthcare provider.



**Aysegul Sahin,  
MD**

**Core Values:** Honesty, Integrity,  
Justice, Caring  
**MBTI:** ESTP

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** Traveling, reading  
**Favorite book:** Don Quixote  
**Favorite sport:** Swimming  
**Favorite place to travel:** Italy, France, Japan

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** MD  
**Specialty:** Breast Pathology  
**Institution:** MD Anderson Cancer Center  
**Professional interests:** Clinical care, translational research,  
education  
**Expertise:** Breast Pathology  
**Years in Practice:** 33

## MY WHY

**What difference do you want to make?** Help breast cancer patients by providing the most accurate diagnosis



**Naru Ikoma, MD**  
**Assistant**  
**Professor**

**MBTI:** INFJ

**Core Values:** Confidence, Team Work

## PROFESSIONAL

**Occupation:** Surgeon

**Specialty:** Pancreas and gastric cancer

**Institution:** MD Anderson Cancer Center

**Professional interests:** Robotic surgery

**Expertise:** Clinical, research, education

**Years in Practice:** 3

## PERSONAL

**Hobbies:** Golf

**Favorite book:** Outliers (M. Gladwell)

**Favorite sport:** Golf, baseball

**Favorite place to travel:** Anywhere.

## MY WHY

**What difference do you want to make?**

**I want to promote patient-centered treatment through my research in minimally-invasive surgery and patient-reported outcomes.**