



Oct. 2, 2018 | Visit our website

## The Most Popular Rhythm: Atrial Fibrillation



Atrial Fibrillation is the most common, sustained cardiac rhythm disorder. The incidence and prevalence of atrial fibrillation increases with age. Upward of 3 million people have atrial fibrillation. **Rupa Bala, MD**, says, "It takes a village to achieve the best care possible." The most effective treatment and management involves everyone: the patient, family members, primary care physician, general cardiologist and electrophysiologist (EP). Sarver Heart Center's newest cardiac EP outlines AFib's risk factors, diagnostics and treatments.

[Read more](#)

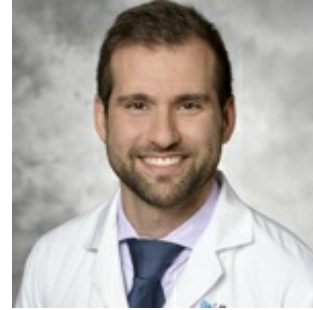
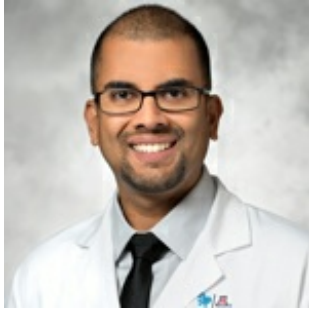
## Cardiac EP Catheterization Lab Shows Off Advanced, Safer Technology



An Advanced Electrophysiology Cardiac Catheterization Lab opened at the beginning of September. EP faculty will use the new system to conduct routine and complex catheter-based procedures to treat arrhythmias, including atrial fibrillation. Benefits of this system include high-quality imaging and excellent visibility, low radiation levels to increase safety for patients and physicians, as well as shorter hospital stays without the pain of a large incision and less visible surgical scarring.

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## Meet Our Three New Cardiologists



The UA Sarver Heart Center welcomed three cardiologists to its faculty (*from left*): [\*\*Tushar Acharya, MD\*\*](#), [\*\*Olivia Hung, MD, PhD\*\*](#), and [\*\*Nader Makki, MD\*\*](#), recently joined the Division of Cardiology as assistant professors and are now seeing patients at Banner - University Medical Center Tucson. "With these three cardiologists, we continue the rapid growth in cardiovascular medicine at the University of Arizona and Banner University Medical Center-Tucson and enhance our ability to provide highly personalized care to patients. Dr. Acharya is a general cardiologist with particular strength in cardiac imaging diagnostics. Dr. Hung is also a general cardiologist, with broad interests and experience including preventive cardiology, women's heart disease, and the growing field of cardio-oncology. Dr. Makki is a skilled interventional cardiologist who, like all our interventional cardiologists will routinely manage acutely ill and complex cardiovascular patients, performing life-saving procedures," said [\*\*Nancy K. Sweitzer, MD, PhD\*\*](#), director of the UA Sarver Heart Center and chief of cardiology.

[Read more](#)

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## Honoring Our Faculty during Women In Medicine Month



Nancy K. Sweitzer, MD, PhD



Sophia Airhart, MD



Rupa Bala, MD



Khadijah Breathett, MD, MS



Jennifer L. Cook, MD



Olivia Y. Hung, MD, PhD



Julia Indik, MD, PhD



Elizabeth Juneman, MD



Jill C. Tardiff, MD, PhD

September is Women In Medicine Month. We now have nine women board certified in various cardiology specialties, including cardiovascular medicine, advanced heart failure and transplantation, echocardiography and clinical cardiac electrophysiology.

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## UA Arthritis Center presents The Future of Health Care, Oct. 3 Community Lecture

Join the UA Arthritis Center for **The Future of Health Care - Insurance, Access to Care, Prescription Benefits**, Oct. 3, with UA Health-Care Policy Expert **Daniel Derksen, MD**, associate vice president for health equity, outreach and interprofessional activities at the UA Health Sciences and the Walter H. Pearce Endowed Chair and professor of public health policy and management at the UA Zuckerman College of Public Health. The program will be in DuVal Auditorium, 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

[Read more](#)

### HELP BEAT HEART DISEASE!

Why is this study important?

IN THE UNITED STATES:  
**\$320 BILLION**  
per year is spent on treating heart disease

**160 MILLION**  
people have at least one known key risk factor for heart disease

**800,000 PEOPLE**  
die annually from heart disease



You're welcome to participate in the **Sarver Heart Center Biorepository** whether or not you have heart disease or a known risk factor. Enrollment means completing a questionnaire, signing an informed consent

form that allows researchers to view your electronic medical record and donating about three tablespoons of blood. These blood samples will help scientists better understand heart disease to improve care and treatment now and in the future. Click on the [Cardiology Research Registry link](#) to get started.

[Read more](#)

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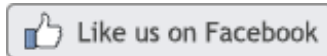
## Support Sarver Heart Center's Mission



support the Center.

**Thank you for your support!** The Sarver Heart Center was built literally on the foundation set by generous donors who are committed to our mission. Whether you can contribute your time, talent or treasures, we invite you to explore the many ways to

[Read more](#)



[Donate to UA Sarver Heart Center](#)

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