

**Hôpital de La Tour** - Caring for you as we would for ourselves



The image shows the exterior of a modern hospital building, Hôpital de La Tour, during the "blue hour" of dusk. The building features a multi-story facade with large, rectangular glass windows and light-colored concrete or metal panels. The sky is a deep, clear blue. In the foreground, there is a landscaped area with a low concrete wall, several small, dark, rounded shrubs, and a few young trees with thin trunks. A paved walkway runs alongside the building, and a grassy lawn is visible in the lower right. Small, cylindrical outdoor lights are placed along the path and near the shrubs. The overall atmosphere is calm and professional.

At Hôpital de La Tour, caregivers and doctors treat their patients with the highest level of competence and care. Meet a selection of some of our key specialists, committed to provide patients who make their health a priority with the highest level of expertise.



# MOVEMENT



## Dr med. Panayiotis Christofilopoulos

Specialist in hip and pelvic surgery

### Biography

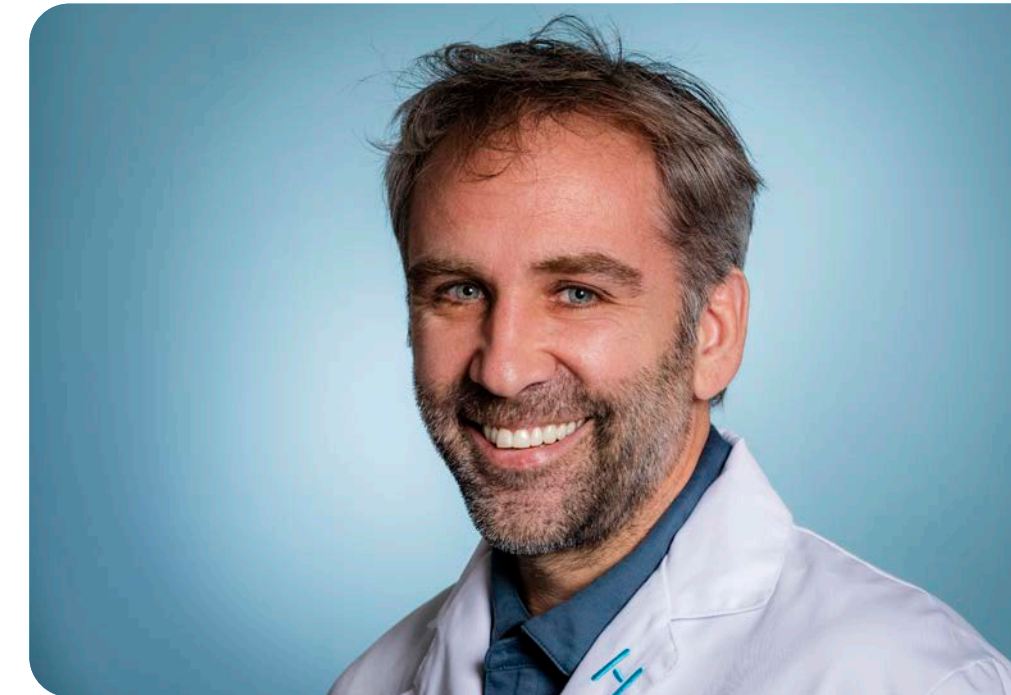
Dr Panayiotis Christofilopoulos is a Swiss trained orthopedic surgeon, an expert in the field of hip reconstruction and hip preservation surgery.

He has been holding the position of Chief Surgeon in Hip and Pelvis Surgery at Hôpital de La Tour since 2015. Before that, he was Deputy Chief at the University of Geneva Orthopedics Service, where he was team leader in Hip Surgery.

Dr Christofilopoulos has authored more than 40 Pubmed indexed articles in the field of Orthopedics and is vice-president of the Foundation for Research in Orthopedics [FORE].

He is a member of the Swiss Orthopedics Hip Expert Group, the ESSKA Hip Preservation Associates [EHPA] committee, AO Recon, European Hip Society and other specialized societies.

He offers two Fellowship positions [EFORT and HAOST], assumes the training of two orthopedics residents [ISFM] and is co-chair of the teaching committee for Orthopedics at Hôpital de La Tour.



## PD Dr med. Alexandre Lädermann

Specialist in shoulder and elbow surgery

### Biography

Dr Lädermann is a leading specialist in the field of shoulder and elbow surgery. He currently ranks in the top 0.1% of scholars who have written about shoulder surgery over the past 10 years by Expertscape's PubMed-based algorithms, a level labeled as "World Expert."

He is a Privatdocent at the University of Geneva, a founder of BeeMed and Med4Cast, and President of the Foundation for Research and Teaching in Orthopedics, Sports Medicine, Trauma, and Imaging [FORE]. He is also a member of the Central Committee of the French Arthroscopy Society [SFA], former President of the Swiss Shoulder Society, former President of the Membership Committee and current member of the Central Committee of the European Society for Surgery of the Shoulder and the Elbow [SECEC/ESSSE].

Dr Lädermann joined Hôpital de La Tour in 2011 and was given the responsibility of developing shoulder and elbow surgery within the Orthopaedics and Trauma Surgery Division. He is also responsible for teaching.

He is an editor of the Hive, the Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Arthroplasty, and the Journal of Clinical Medicine, and is the author of more than 200 publications in journals and books.

# MOVEMENT



Dr med. Philippe Alves  
Specialist in knee surgery

## Biography

Dr Philippe Alves is a Swiss Medical Association (FMH)-certified orthopedic surgeon specializing in knee surgery. He works as Chief Physician and is the head of the Knee Prosthesis Unit at Hôpital de La Tour.

He was educated at the University of Geneva, where he earned his medical degree and his doctorate in medicine. He is now once again working as an attending physician for the Geneva University Hospitals. He is a member of world-renowned societies in the field of orthopedic surgery and specifically knee surgery. As an expert in knee prostheses, Dr Alves regularly invites surgeons from throughout the world to share in his experience, and has also appeared at events to pass on his knowledge.

Since he joined Hôpital de La Tour in 2017, he has been responsible for knee surgery and, in particular, knee osteoarthritis, which includes prosthetic knee surgery and treatments for cartilage lesions.

Dr Alves performs knee surgery to the highest standards, using the most cutting-edge technology within the field. Notably, he was the first person in Europe to use augmented reality for prosthetic knee surgery.



Dr med. Julien  
Billières  
Specialist in knee surgery

## Biography

Doctor Julien Billières is an orthopedic surgeon and traumatologist, and an expert in knee surgery, in particular to treat lesions of the ligament, meniscus and cartilage. His work also includes osteotomies and prosthetic surgery.

He holds a degree from the Faculty of Medicine within the University of Geneva, where he also earned his doctorate in medicine. After his training at the University of Geneva, he was awarded certification by the Swiss Medical Association (FMH) in orthopedic surgery and traumatology of the motor system in 2016, and has specialized in knee surgery alongside world-renowned surgeons.

Dr Billières also worked under the supervision of Professor Menetrey at the Geneva University Hospitals, and completed a fellowship in Versailles in the team led by Dr Philippe Beaufils and Dr Nicolas Pujol. After returning, he worked as Chief resident for 2 years at the Sports Orthopedics and Traumatology Unit, where he focused specifically on knee conditions.

He undertook another fellowship in Lyon in 2020 under Dr Bertrand Sonnery-Cottet, a renowned surgeon who provides care to professional athletes. He joined the medical team at Hôpital de La Tour in 2020 as a consultant for ligament and meniscus surgery.

He is a member of the French Arthroscopy Society (SFA) and the European Society for Sports Traumatology, Knee Surgery & Arthroscopy (ESSKA).



# MOVEMENT



## Dr med. Finn Mahler

Specialist in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine

### Biography

Dr Finn Mahler is a leading expert in the field of sports medicine and co-founded the Sports Medicine Department at Hôpital de La Tour in 1995. He is the current Medical Director of the Swiss Olympic Medical Center.

He holds a degree in physical medicine and rehabilitation from the University of Geneva (1985) and a postgraduate degree in sports medicine from the London Hospital Medical College, where he was awarded the David Ritchie prize in 1991.

He was one of the leading forces behind the conceptualization of the internationally praised Center of Excellence in Orthopedics and Sports Medicine at Hôpital de La Tour, inaugurated in 2017 and dedicated to movement.

He is part of an international network of foremost experts in the field of sports and exercise medicine, and has established himself as a prominent figure in the field of sports medicine in Switzerland. Over the years, he has built up a global patient base, including world and Olympic champion athletes.

He is the current Chief Medical Officer of the Alinghi Red Bull Racing sailing team and Medical Director of Servette FC in Geneva.

# CANCER



Dr med. Angela  
Pugliesi Rinaldi  
Specialist in oncology

## Biography

Doctor Angela Pugliesi Rinaldi is a specialist in Internal medicine and Medical Oncology, with a subspecialty in Geriatric Oncology. She is a chief doctor of the Oncology department at Hôpital de La Tour.

Dr Pugliesi was trained in Ticino, Milan, Berlin and at the Centre Léon-Bérard in Lyon, a structure dedicated to cancer care and research. She holds a Master's Degree in Geriatric oncology and worked for several years at the Geneva University Hospitals before she joined Hôpital de La Tour.

She's an expert in the treatment of women's cancers, especially breast cancer. Her department benefits from agreements with the Geneva University Hospitals for tumor boards and clinical studies and works closely with the Otium Center, a local structure that offers integrative complementary medicines for cancer patients.

# OBESITY AND ABDOMINAL SURGERY



Prof. Dr med. François Pralong

Specialist in Endocrinology  
& Diabetes

## Biography

Prof. François Pralong is the Head of the Endocrinology, Diabetology and Obesity Center at Hôpital de La Tour.

After completing his medical degree and doctoral thesis in Geneva, he became an associate professor at the Faculty of Biology and Medicine at Lausanne University and the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Geneva. He was later made a full professor in Lausanne, where he became the Head of the Endocrinology, Diabetology, and Metabolism Department at Lausanne University Hospital.

He is a former President of the Swiss Society of Endocrinology and Diabetology and received numerous awards in his field of expertise.

Professor Pralong joined Hôpital de La Tour in 2017. In 2020, he co-founded the Swiss Center for Preventive Medicine - Highcare, a highly specialized institution providing patients with personalized health assessments designed to help them maintain and optimize their health and physical fitness.



Dr med. Jean-Marie Mégevand

Specialist in abdominal surgery,  
surgical treatment of obesity &  
gastro-intestinal cancers

## Biography

Dr Jean-Marie Mégevand is a pioneer in bariatric surgery. He works across a wide range of disciplines within the field of abdominal surgery, but specializes in hepato-bilio-pancreatic surgery. He is currently the Head of the Abdominal Surgery Unit at Hôpital de La Tour.

As well as a diploma certifying his specialized training in abdominal surgery, awarded by the Swiss Medical Association [FMH], Dr Mégevand holds an inter-university diploma in hepato-bilio-pancreatic surgery from the Université Paris Sud.

Fifteen years ago, he created the Bariatric Surgery Center at Hôpital de La Tour. His work also encompasses general surgery, in particular surgery of the abdominal wall (hernias, incisional hernias, etc.)

Dr Jean-Marie Mégevand joined Hôpital de La Tour in 2000, becoming Head of the Abdominal Surgery Unit. Since then, he has worked constantly to improve the services it offers, including training courses given not only to young doctors but also to all nursing staff.



# OBESITY AND ABDOMINAL SURGERY



PD Dr med. Axel  
Andres

Specialist in abdominal and general surgery, hepato-pancreato-biliary surgery

## Biography

Dr Axel Andres is a surgeon specializing in several domains of abdominal surgery, in particular in hepato-pancreato-biliary surgery.

He has been at Geneva University Hospital for over 20 years, working as a senior staff surgeon in the abdominal surgery and transplantation divisions.

He completed a clinical fellowship in liver and pancreas surgery, and abdominal organ transplantation at the University of Alberta, Canada. He has been involved in research in the fields of colorectal liver metastases, liver transplantation survival models, and islet transplantation. He has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles and chapters of several books.

He is currently Privatdocent and lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Geneva, and was formerly responsible for the Master's program of the Surgical Department at the University of Geneva, and for post-graduate surgical education at the Geneva University Hospitals.

He joined the abdominal surgery team at Hôpital de La Tour in September 2022.



PD Dr med. Nicolas  
Buchs

Specialist in abdominal and general surgery, colorectal surgery

## Biography

Dr Nicolas Buchs is one of the leading specialists in the field of colorectal surgery in Geneva. He is currently one of the heads of the Abdominal Surgery Department at Hôpital de La Tour.

After working more than 17 years at the Geneva University Hospitals, he continues to work with this academic center as an associate surgeon, while pursuing colorectal surgery at Hôpital de La Tour.

He is a member of more than 10 national and international societies, and a board member for 8 societies or international journals. He was awarded the prestigious Lars Palhman Medal for the best performance in the EBSQ Examination in Coloproctology in 2016. He has treated more than 1000 patients suffering from colorectal pathologies, including malignant conditions, inflammatory bowel disease, and endometriosis.

He joined Hôpital de La Tour in 2022, where he pursues his special interest in colorectal surgery, with a primary focus on malignant pathologies and inflammatory diseases, including Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis and endometriosis.

After more than 17 years in public institutions, Dr Nicolas Buchs wishes to share his vast experience in colorectal surgery with his colleagues at Hôpital de La Tour.



# INTERNAL MEDICINE, CARDIOLOGY AND PULMONOLOGY



Prof. Dr med. Omar  
Kherad

Specialist in General Internal  
Medicine

## Biography

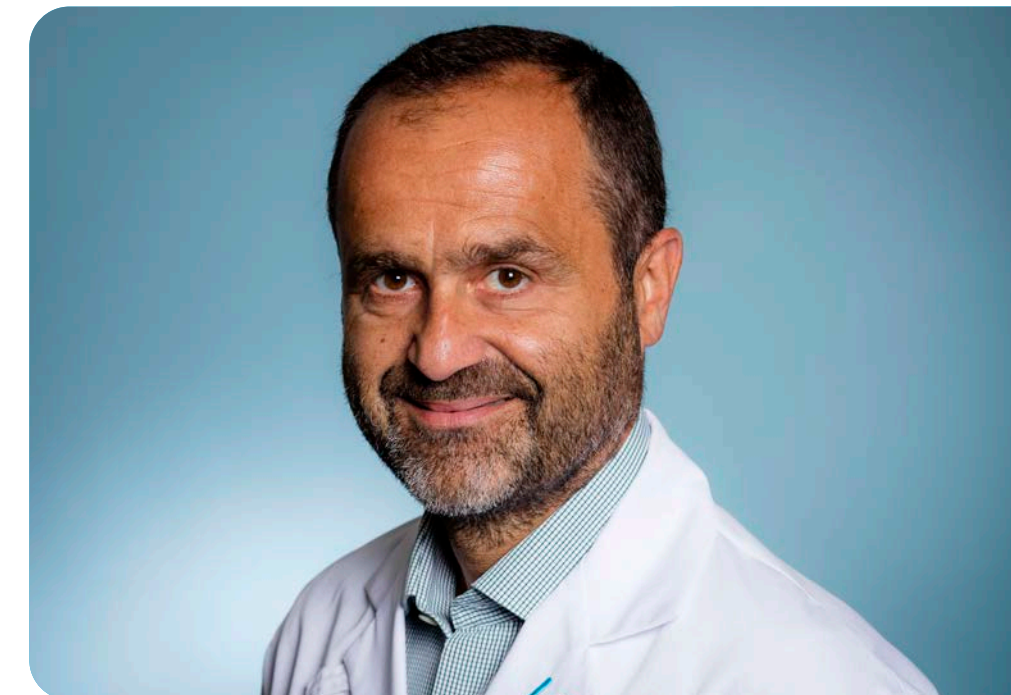
Prof. Kherad is the Head of the Internal Medicine Department at Hôpital de La Tour. He was appointed as an associate professor by the Geneva University School of Medicine in 2016, and he works as a consultant for the Internal Medicine Department at the Geneva University Hospital.

He holds a Master's degree in public health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and a diploma in quality of care from Harvard Medical School. He was also appointed as an adjunct professor at McGill University in Montreal in 2017.

Over the past few years, Prof. Kherad has become one of the leading voices for the “Choosing Wisely” campaign (Smarter Medicine) in Switzerland, focusing on achieving better outcomes more efficiently.

Advocating for a “less is more” approach to medicine, he—along with the residents from Hôpital de La Tour whose training he supervises—published several papers showcasing, for example, inappropriate repeated laboratory and radiological tests for transferred emergency department patients, overuse of abdominal X-rays in emergency departments, and restrictive transfusion strategies.

He is a member of the quality in healthcare taskforce at the Swiss Society of General Internal Medicine (SGAIM) and is an expert in implementing quality-of-care indicators.



Dr med. Edoardo  
De Benedetti

Specialist in cardiology

## Biography

Dr Edoardo De Benedetti is an interventional cardiologist at Hôpital de La Tour, where he has been in charge of the catheterization laboratory for more than 10 years.

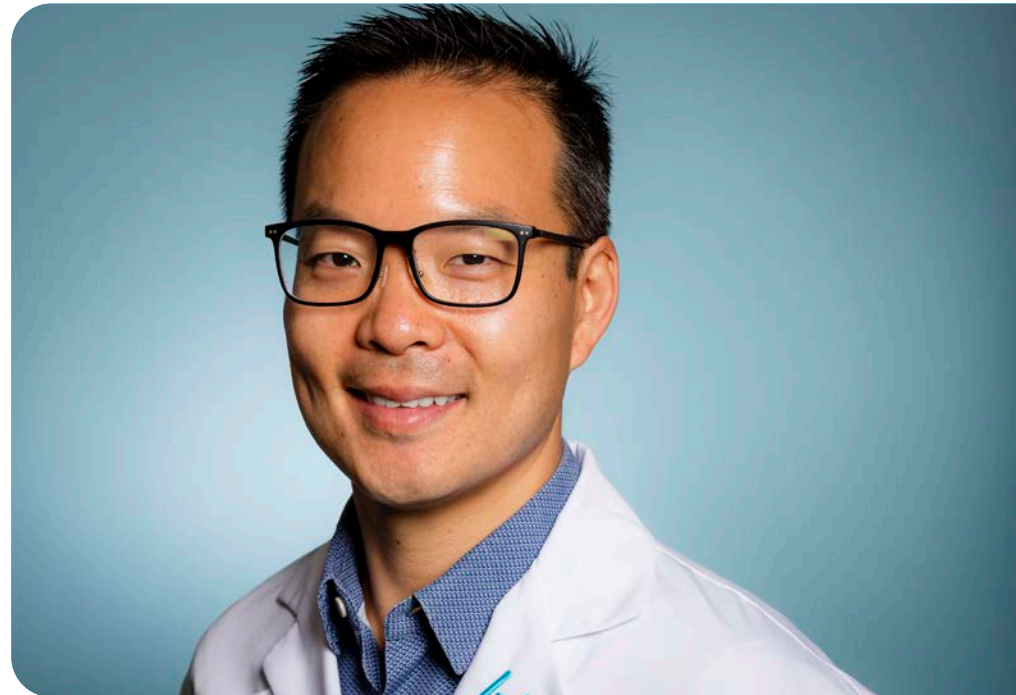
He trained in cardiology in Geneva, in interventional cardiology in Lausanne and Paris, and he is a fellow of the European Society of Cardiology and a member of the Swiss Society of Cardiology.

He joined Hôpital de La Tour in 2002, where he has been involved in the development of ambulatory, interventional and structural activity within the hospital ever since.

His main fields of interest include coronary (angioplasty) and structural interventions (PFO closure and TAVI).



# INTERNAL MEDICINE, CARDIOLOGY AND PULMONOLOGY



**Dr Chan-il Park**

Specialist in cardiology  
and rhythmology

## Biography

Dr Chan-il Park is a cardiologist and a specialist in rhythmology, the treatment of abnormal heart rhythms. He is one of the chief doctors in Hôpital de La Tour's Cardiology Department.

Dr Park graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Geneva in 2002. He earned a degree in internal medicine in 2008 and in cardiology in 2010. He pursued his professional career in the field of cardiac electrophysiology at the University Heart Center in Freiburg-Bad Krozingen, Germany. He holds a certificate in electrophysiology from the European Heart Rhythm Association [EHRA]. He received an award for Best Abstract in Rhythmology – Pacemaker in 2012.

After years of practice at the Geneva University Hospital, the Lausanne University Hospital and in Germany, he joined Hôpital de La Tour in 2014, as a cardiac rhythmology specialist.



**Dr med. Nicolas Dayal**

Specialist in cardiology  
[pacemakers and defibrillators]

## Biography

Dr Nicolas Dayal is a cardiologist who specializes in heart rhythm management, specifically cardiac device [CIED] implantation and follow-up [pacemakers, defibrillators, and loop recorders]. He is a certified cardiac device specialist [level 2] by the European Heart Rhythm Association [EHRA]. He is also certified by the European Association for Cardiovascular Imaging [EACVI] for transthoracic and transoesophageal echocardiography.

He accomplished his full medical training in the Geneva University Hospitals, where he was a chief resident in both internal medicine and cardiology, before accomplishing a fellowship in cardiac device implantation at the University Hospital of Grenoble-Alpes, France, under the guidance of Professor Pascal Defaye.

He has been working at Hôpital de La Tour since 2017, where he is responsible for all CIED implantations. He opened his private practice on the campus in 2020. With his colleague Dr Park, he is co-chief of the heart rhythm department at Hôpital de La Tour, where over 1000 pacemaker/defibrillator recipients are followed, including over 250 by remote monitoring. He oversees over 250 procedures/year, using the most advanced technologies in his field.

He is lead or co-lead author of over 30 publications and scientific posters and acted as co-investigator for several large Swiss and European registries concerning Atrial Fibrillation. He is regularly invited as a speaker in Swiss and European cardiology congresses.



# INTERNAL MEDICINE, CARDIOLOGY AND PULMONOLOGY



Dr. med .Amir Fassa

Specialist in cardiology

## Biography

Dr Amir Fassa is a leading specialist in interventional and structural cardiology and the current co-director of the catheterization laboratory at Hôpital de La Tour.

Dr Fassa trained in general and interventional cardiology at the Geneva University Hospitals and was a research fellow at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, USA. He also completed a 3 years advanced fellowship in coronary and structural interventions at Bichat Hospital and Institut Cardiovasculaire Paris Sud in Paris, France.

He joined Hôpital de La Tour in 2014 as a general and interventional cardiologist. Together with his team, he is responsible for the development of transcatheter aortic valve intervention.



Dr med. Alain Bigin  
Younossian

Specialist in pulmonology

## Biography

Dr Younossian, MD is a specialist in pulmonology, intensive care, and internal medicine. He also holds a certificate in sleep medicine and emergency medicine.

After acquiring a sound academic background in these three specialties, Dr Younossian joined Hôpital de La Tour in 2010, while retaining his position as Consultant Physician at the Geneva University Hospitals.

He actively participated in the development of the Pulmonology and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Department, the recognition of intermediate care within the Cardiopulmonary Unit, and the development of the Intensive Care Unit.

Currently in the role of Chief Physician, he splits his time between the Pulmonology, Intermediate Care, and Intensive Care departments. He works closely with the various departments of the Hospital.

Dr Younossian is recognized for his skills in acute respiratory medicine and interventional bronchoscopy, and he developed the bronchial endoscopy in Hôpital de La Tour for diagnostic procedures, endoscopic ultrasound, and endobronchial interventions. He also trained nursing teams on propofol sedation in endoscopic procedures, providing the best care with safety and comfort.

He is a member of the medical committee of the CENAS Sleep Center and participated in the installation of a sleep bed for polysomnography within the Hospital.