

42nd WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

USF INTERNAL MEDICINE & PEDIATRIC DIVISIONS OF ALLERGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

This newsletter features Dr. Tara Vinyette Saco, MD, Affiliate Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Allergy and Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine, University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine.



Tara Vinyette Saco, MD
Affiliate Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Allergy and Immunology
Department of Internal Medicine



Windom Allergy, Asthma and Sinus

(L to R): Jean Ly MD, Tara Saco MD, Jennifer Fergeson DO, Hugh Windom MD,



Dr. Saco in her office at the clinic



Dr. Saco graduating from USF Allergy/Immunology Fellowship Program, 2019.



Dr. Saco with co-fellows during her fellowship years

Left to Right: Kirk Shepard, MD, Tara Saco, MD, Shiven Patel, MD



Dr. Saco with pediatric and internal medicine allergy/immunology co-fellows:

First row: Warit Jithpratuck, MD, Irina Dawson, MD, Claudia Gaefke, MD, Tara Saco, MD, Kirk Shepard, MD

Second row: Fatima Kahn, MD, Shiven Patel, MD



Some fun times!

Drs. Fergeson, Ly, and Saco with baseball player, Tim Tebow, at a charity dinner in Sarasota.



Out to dinner with co-workers!

Left to Right: Dr. Kirk Shepard and his wife, Lia, Dr. Tara Saco, Renee from the CRU and her husband, Casey.

About Dr. Tara Saco, MD:

Dr. Tara Saco grew up in Lakeland, Florida and graduated from Florida Southern College. She received her medical degree from the University of South Florida (USF) College of Medicine. She then completed her internal medicine residency and allergy/immunology fellowship training at USF. She has an avid interest in drug allergy and mast cell disorders, such as systemic mastocytosis and mast cell activation syndrome. Finding ways to desensitize patients with chemotherapy allergies so that they can safely receive the best chemotherapy to treat their cancer brings her great personal satisfaction. She received specialized training in mast cell disorders and in desensitizing patients who are allergic to chemotherapy and new biologic medications at Brigham & Women/Harvard from Dr. Mariana Castells, a world-renowned expert in drug allergy and mast cell disorders.

Dr. Saco was the American College of Physicians Resident of the Year for the state of Florida all three years during her internal medicine residency training. She has published articles in the *Annals of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology* as well as the *American Journal of Physiology*. She has given oral presentations at the American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology, the Florida Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Society, and the Clinical Immunology Society annual meetings. She also attended the first ever American Initiative in Mast Cell Diseases, where she presented a poster on a recently discovered mast cell disorder called hereditary alpha tryptasemia. Dr. Saco also attended the Clinical Immunology Society School, where one allergy fellow per program is chosen to join other fellows from across the world to learn about immune deficiency from experts in the field.

She joyfully joined Windom Allergy in 2019 while maintaining her close ties to USF as a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Allergy division. She enjoys painting, going to art museums, traveling and reading.

Dr. Tara Saco is a valued colleague and it is indeed a pleasure to work with her. She is remembered and missed by everyone as a fellow in the Division of Allergy/Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine, and we are glad to have her continue her work in the Division.

With warm regards,

Richard F. Lockey, MD
Distinguished University Health Professor
Joy McCann Culverhouse Chair in Allergy
and Immunology
Professor of Medicine, Pediatrics & Public Health
Director, Division of Allergy and Immunology
Department of Internal Medicine

Jolan Walter, MD, PhD
Robert A. Good Endowed Chair in Immunology
Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine
Chief, Division of Allergy and Immunology
Department of Pediatrics