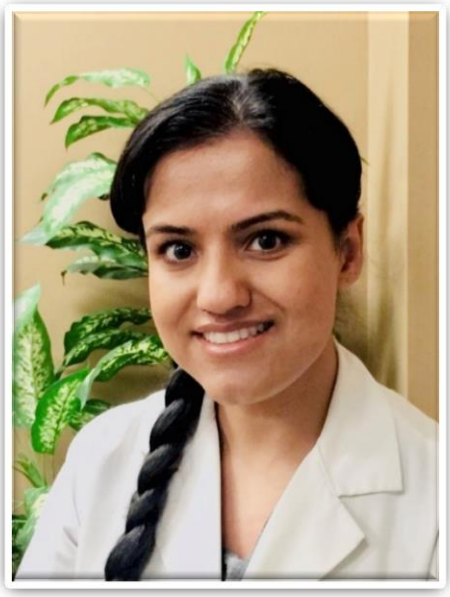
Dr. Syeda Laila Alqadri

Bellport High School Class Of 2003



Laila graduated Bellport High School in 2003. A few of her academic achievements in high school included the Harvard Book Award, being in the top of the Who's Who Among High School Students yearly and graduating top three in her class. She then attended New York Institute of Technology on a full scholarship as a Pre-Medicine and Biology Major. She graduated with high honors and top of her graduating class (Magna Cum Laude, and with the Faculty Science Award, respectively). She went on to receive her Medical Doctorate at St. George's School of Medicine, after completing her hospital clinical rotations at Cleveland Clinic and Case Western Reserve Hospitals. It was there she met Dr. Raghav Govindarajan (world renowned Neuromuscular specialist) at Cleveland Clinic Hospital that mentored and inspired her to love Neurology.

Laila joined University of Missouri Hospital in 2012 for her Neurology residency. While in residency, she served as Neurology Chief Resident, on the Board for the Liaison Committee for Medical Education for the hospital (the first in her Department), and as a mentor for all rotating medical students. After becoming a Neurologist, she pursued additional fellowship training at the University of Michigan for Epilepsy. She learned from the best to be the authority in Electroencephalography, Electromyography, and Sleep Medicine, in adults and pediatrics. She tailored her remaining training with an extensive focus in Intraoperative Monitoring and Epilepsy Surgery for medically intractable patients, including Responsive Neurostimulation and Vagal Nerve Stimulation. She received additional training at Henry Ford Hospital in Magnetoencephalography. This gave her the unique skill set that only a handful of physicians in the nation had. During this time, she was nominated by her Department Director, and subsequently nationally selected among a few, to attend the prestigious J. Henry Kiffin Penry Neurostimulation

for Epilepsy Fellowship twice. After fellowship, Dr. Alqadri moved back to Columbia, Missouri in 2017 and decided to join a private practice.

Dr. Alqadri considers being able to wake up every day to go do what she loves, which is to help patients, as her greatest achievement. Many of the honors and opportunities given to her were for her dedication to her patients. For her extensive grass roots work through Brain Pac (the only federal political action committee for the field of Neurology), she was the only representative for her State, for her profession as a physician, to Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. There, she lobbied for critical Neurological issues that affected her patients' quality of care. On a personal level, a few of her achievements included authoring numerous landmark journal publications in Stroke. She was the first to create and publish the original clinical grading scale for Basilar Artery Occlusions, which is still cited and used as a foundation for surgical Neuro interventional procedures. Her work in Neurology and Stroke led her to winning the National Award for Neuroimaging, as well as being invited to be a Platform speaker to give a lecture series at the American Academy of Neurology annual conference, making her the youngest individual (and female) to achieve this honor. She also has authored numerous journal publications in Epilepsy, Neurocritical Care, Intraoperative Monitoring, and Electromyography, which have won her more than four National Awards and Scholarships. She recently authored several chapters, which were published in the latest edition of The Little Black Book of Neurology, a well-known and reputable series of Neurology books, and a recommended clinical resource for most practicing the field of Clinical Neurology.

At the age of 35, Dr. Alqadri has dedicated most of her 8 years of medical practice, and highly subspecialized unique skill set, to helping patients. Sometimes when she is asked what she does, she realizes she has never succeeded at making the explanation less complicated. She then simply replies with a smile, "I read brain, muscle and nerve waves. I also figure out where to put tiny chips in peoples' brains, so I can read and control them." Dr. Alqadri hopes to eventually head a multi-disciplinary, cutting edge research, and treatment facility for Traumatic Brain Injury and related Epilepsy for VA Veterans one day.