



COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES

Director, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism
Department of Internal Medicine
The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

THE SEARCH

Amid significant growth and investment, the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine (OUCM) Department of Internal Medicine seeks an accomplished academic endocrinologist to lead the Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolism. This leader will guide a division entering a new era of expansion in clinical care, research, and education. The division collaborates closely with the Harold Hamm Diabetes Center, a nationally recognized institute that advances discovery and improves outcomes in diabetes and metabolic diseases. The division is positioned to expand its reach and impact across Oklahoma and beyond.

Located at the University of Oklahoma Health Campus in Oklahoma City, OUCM is the state's flagship academic medical institution and the cornerstone of OU Health, Oklahoma's only comprehensive academic health system. OU Health brings together more than 10,000 employees and 1,300 physicians and advanced practice providers across a network of hospitals, clinics, and centers of excellence, including the [Harold Hamm Diabetes Center](#), the [Stephenson Cancer Center](#), the [Dean McGee Eye Institute](#), and [Oklahoma Children's Hospital](#). Together, the College of Medicine and OU Health form a powerful academic and clinical enterprise advancing discovery, education, and patient care across the region.

The College is in a period of transformation, expanding departments, recruiting new leaders, and strengthening its research enterprise. In commitment to that effort, OUCM is launching *Project 150*, a bold initiative to recruit 150 faculty and build nationally recognized strength in biomedical research. Seeking outstanding investigators across disciplines, recruits will have access to state-of-the-art resources, robust start-up packages, and unique opportunities for cross-campus collaboration to drive discovery and improve the health of Oklahomans and beyond.

Internal Medicine is the College's largest department, with more than 200 faculty members across 11 divisions, and features strong residency and fellowship programs. The Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism includes 10 faculty members, five staff members, and five fellows. With philanthropic

support and institutional commitment, the division is well-positioned to build new programs, expand clinical access, grow clinical trials, and strengthen translational research.

The director will connect the division's work across departments, centers, and community partners to advance endocrine and metabolic health statewide. Priorities include expanding access to care across Oklahoma, developing interdisciplinary research programs, growing the faculty, and supporting innovative education and training.

This role offers the resources, momentum, and collaborative culture needed to shape the future of diabetes and endocrine medicine at OU. Candidates must be board-certified in endocrinology, eligible for appointment as associate or full professor, and bring a strong record of leadership in clinical care, research, and education.

The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine has retained Isaacson, Miller to assist with this search. All inquiries, nominations, and applications will be confidential and should be directed to the firm as noted at the end of this document.

THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

The [College of Medicine](#) is the largest entity within the University of Oklahoma Health Campus. OUCM boasts a distinguished faculty of nearly 1,350 members, including almost 1,000 full-time faculty and 218 endowed chairs and professorships. It comprises 21 academic departments, including 17 clinical departments, four basic science departments, and numerous centers and institutes dedicated to advancing research and clinical initiatives across diverse medical fields.

In addition to its main campus in Oklahoma City, the College operates a branch campus in Tulsa, which hosts eight clinical departments and the unique [School of Community Medicine](#) track. Together, these campuses offer Oklahoma's Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree program, a highly competitive Physician Assistant (PA) program, an innovative MD/PhD dual-degree option, opportunities for MPH coursework, and a comprehensive array of graduate medical education (GME) residency and fellowship programs, including Emergency Medicine.

Furthermore, OUCM plays a vital role in training healthcare professionals through 83 specialty and subspecialty programs, accommodating 766 residents and fellows. Notably, Oklahoma retains 51.4% of physicians who complete their residencies within the state, demonstrating OUCM's exceptional contribution to bolstering the local healthcare workforce, which exceeds the national average retention rate of 47.6%. Over 80% of Oklahoma's healthcare professionals are OU grads.

[Ian F. Dunn](#), MD, FACS, FAANS, was appointed executive dean of the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine beginning January 2024, where he also serves as the Chief Academic Officer and Chief Physician Executive of OU Health. With a distinguished career spanning renowned medical institutions and pioneering contributions in neurosurgery, research, and healthcare leadership, Dr. Dunn brings a wealth

of experience and vision to the OUCM. Dr. Dunn's journey to leadership at the College is marked by a pursuit of excellence. Prior to joining OU, he served as a trailblazing figure in neurosurgery and academic medicine. As an associate professor at Harvard Medical School and director of the Center for Pituitary and Skull Base Surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dr. Dunn gained national recognition for his expertise in complex brain tumors, particularly those in the skull base and pituitary region. He has published widely on these topics and on the role of genomic alterations in tumor natural history and has lectured around the world.

HAROLD HAMM DIABETES CENTER

The Harold Hamm Diabetes Center (HHDC) at the University of Oklahoma is a nationally recognized leader in diabetes research, clinical care, and prevention. Established in 2008 with a \$67 million founding gift, HHDC has grown into one of the country's most comprehensive and well-supported centers dedicated to understanding and reducing the burden of diabetes and its complications. In 2018, Mr. Hamm donated an additional \$35 million (\$45 million with additional University matching funds) dedicated to the recruitment of the new Director of the HHDC and further recruitment of basic diabetes researchers. 6 new Endowed Chairs have been filled at the Assistant/ Associate /Professor level with between \$1 and \$3 million dollars in start-up funds to new investigators, and a generous pilot research program. New basic science laboratory space has been established in the Biomedical Research Center (BRC) with over 11,500 sq ft of new continuous basic research space bringing the total to >21,150 sq ft of basic science lab space dedicated to Diabetes researchers, as part of Project 150, as outlined below.

The HHDC, located in the heart of the OUHC campus is a free-standing Center with more than 157,000 sq. ft. in capital facilities dedicated to patient care of adult diabetes and Endocrinology, including clinical trials, a metabolic kitchen, educational outreach, a gastric bypass program, and clinics for neurology, eye care, and . Physicians in the HHDC carry out clinical research and have dedicated space for pediatric and adult Endocrinology, complications, clinical trials, and education. In addition to clinics in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, the Center brings together over 100 faculty members and 15 endowed chairs across basic, clinical, and translational science. HHDC's facilities at the University of Oklahoma include clinical trial suites and dedicated space for adult and pediatric endocrinology, complications research, and education. Its integration within OU Health, one of the nation's few comprehensive academic health centers, creates a strong platform for collaboration and innovation across disciplines.

The Center's research portfolio is anchored in three strategic themes—early-life intervention, pancreatic protection, and neuro-metabolic regulation. Active areas of investigation include pediatric and gestational diabetes, metabolic disease in Native American populations, immunometabolism, nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, translational nutrition, and the links between diabetes and cancer. HHDC also houses the Oklahoma Clinical and Translational Science Institute (OCTSI), the state's CTSA hub, which provides robust infrastructure for multidisciplinary clinical research. The outpatient clinic of the Division of Endocrinology is housed within the building of the HHDC.

HHDC sustains more than \$25 million in NIH funding and benefits from substantial philanthropic support, with endowed chairs ranging from \$1 million to \$4 million. Its collaborations extend across OU Health, the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, tribal health partners, and other academic institutions statewide. Overall, HHDC researchers and clinicians have brought in more than \$100 million in outside grant funding over the last decade to OUHSC from agencies such as the NIH, Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology, American Diabetes Association, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, American Heart Association, and others, and is poised for further growth.

For the incoming director, HHDC offers an exceptional environment for partnership, linking clinical programs, research initiatives, and community engagement to address diabetes and metabolic disease on a state and national scale.

THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

Led by [Dr. Isabella Grumbach](#), a cardiologist and physician-scientist, [the Department of Internal Medicine](#) comprises approximately 205 faculty and over 137 staff and research students distributed across 11 divisions: [Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism](#), [Cardiovascular Diseases](#), [Digestive Diseases and Nutrition](#), [General Internal Medicine](#), [Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine](#), [Hematology-Oncology](#), [Hospital Medicine](#), [Infectious Diseases](#), [Nephrology](#), [Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine](#), and [Rheumatology, Immunology, Allergy](#). In addition to these roles, the Division Directors, the Director for Patient Safety and Quality, the Vice Chairs for Education, Research, and Faculty Development, and the research and business administrators all report directly to the Chair. Over the past five years, 115 new faculty members have been hired. The new department chair is committed to growing the number of faculty to meet the demands of the rapidly expanding healthcare center and an ambitious vision for scholarly activities.

The Internal Medicine [Residency Program](#) has 65 residents and is complemented by the distinctive [Global Health and Social Justice Program](#) and boasts energetic and highly dedicated young leadership. The Internal Medicine-Pediatrics (Med/Peds) Residency has 12 residents, and the Ophthalmology, Neurology, and Radiology residents rotate on the Department services throughout the academic year. There are also 10 fellowships in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, Cardiology, Infectious Diseases, Gastroenterology, Hematology/Oncology, Nephrology, Pulmonary/Critical Care, Rheumatology/Immunology/Allergy, Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Geriatric Medicine.

Research

At times of uncertainty in research funding, the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine remains highly committed and empowered to expand its research enterprise. Ranked 61st in the 2024 Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research rankings for NIH funding, the Department of Medicine is competitive with other public universities and peers within the AAU group. Its reputation score, as measured by Academic

Analytics, places the department in the 75th percentile nationally, while its ranking around the 30th percentile for the number of faculty engaged in research highlights the significant opportunity for growth. The department fosters a collaborative research culture, supported by vice-chairs for research, a highly productive Grants Club, state-of-the-art facilities, and a strong partnership with the basic science departments and the Oklahoma Clinical and Translational Science Institute. Under the leadership of a new department chair with a focus on strategic growth, the department is poised to expand its research footprint and drive impactful discoveries.

DIVISION OF ENDOCRINOLOGY, DIABETES AND METABOLISM

The division comprises 10 faculty members, five staff members, and five fellows dedicated to advancing patient care, discovery, and education through the HHDC and OU Health.

It serves as Oklahoma's academic hub for endocrine and metabolic medicine, providing specialized care for patients across the state and mentoring the next generation of clinicians and scientists. It provides comprehensive expertise across the full spectrum of endocrine and metabolic disorders, including diabetes, thyroid, adrenal, pituitary, bone, and gonadal diseases. Outpatient services are fully referral-based, and patients benefit from access to a growing portfolio of clinical trials. Faculty care for patients at the HHDC in Oklahoma City and in affiliated clinics across the state, working closely with OU Health colleagues to advance evidence-based, multidisciplinary care.

The clinical enterprise continues to expand in reach and scope, with six faculty physicians, six advanced practice providers, and two staff supporting approximately 9,074 outpatient visits and 1,600 inpatient consultations annually. Ongoing initiatives focus on enhancing access to specialty care, expanding telehealth services, and integrating clinical research into routine practice to improve outcomes for Oklahomans affected by endocrine and metabolic disease.

Education and Training

Education is a defining strength. The ACGME-accredited fellowship program offers six positions, with tracks of two, three, and four years, including an integrated adult-pediatric pathway. Fellows gain extensive inpatient and outpatient experience alongside structured opportunities for research and scholarly work. The program currently includes 5 fellows and 1 postdoctoral research trainee, supported by a dedicated faculty committed to individualized mentorship and professional development.

The curriculum prepares graduates for board certification and leadership roles in academic or clinical settings. Faculty are deeply engaged in teaching across the medical education continuum and known institutionally for the outstanding quality of the education they provide, from undergraduate medical education through residency and fellowship. Moreover, they contribute to community outreach and continuing education programs that advance diabetes and endocrine care throughout the state.

Research

Research is central to the division's academic mission and to the work of the HHDC. Faculty lead studies that connect laboratory discovery, clinical innovation, and community partnership to advance understanding and treatment of diabetes and related endocrine and metabolic disorders.

Basic and translational research occupies approximately 10,000 square feet of laboratory space in the Basic Science Education Building and focuses on mechanisms of vascular injury in diabetes, including both microvascular and macrovascular complications. Regular research seminars, case conferences, and the annual Diabetes Research Symposium foster collaboration across the College and sustain a vibrant scientific community that links patient care, discovery, and education.

Research training is integral to the fellowship experience, and fellows are encouraged to participate in mentored clinical or laboratory projects.

ROLE OF THE DIRECTOR

The next division director will report to the department chair and provide visionary and strategic leadership for a program that is central to the mission of the Department of Medicine, OUCOM, and the HHDC. They will be charged with strengthening and expanding the program's impact across all mission areas: clinical care, research, education, and community engagement.

The director will guide a dedicated team of faculty, fellows, postdoctoral trainees, and staff committed to advancing endocrine and metabolic health across Oklahoma and beyond. This individual will build upon a strong clinical foundation to expand access, grow patient volume, and enhance coordination across inpatient and outpatient services. Strengthening the division's role in clinical trials and translational research is a particular priority.

Key responsibilities include recruiting and mentoring faculty, promoting collaborative and team-based science, aligning clinical operations with OU Health priorities, and cultivating a welcoming culture of innovation and accountability. The director will work closely with institutional leadership to develop strategic plans, secure resources, and position the division for continued growth in research funding, clinical excellence, and academic reputation.

Within the first three to five years, the director will be expected to expand faculty recruitment and clinical in- and out-patient services, strengthen clinical trials activity, expand the portfolio of bench science, and deepen collaboration with HHDC and other research centers. These initiatives will align with the department's vision to serve as a hub of innovation and excellence in research, education, and clinical care under its new leadership.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Within this energized context, the next director will be expected to lead with vision, collaboration, and a focus on operational excellence across the division's three missions. This leader will join the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine and OU Health at a moment of strong institutional momentum. The division has a capable and collegial faculty, a respected educational foundation, and clear potential for growth across all mission areas. The new director will bring focus and alignment to advance discovery, education, and patient care.

Define a unified vision and strengthen integration

The director will set a clear and shared direction that aligns the division's clinical, research, and educational missions with the ambitious priorities of the Department of Medicine, OU Health, and in alignment with HHDC. This will include building stronger communication channels, clarifying roles, and promoting collaboration across the system. The division is well-positioned to contribute to OU's broader goals in diabetes, metabolism, and obesity medicine, and the next leader can unify these efforts into a cohesive, visible program of excellence.

Expand clinical programs and statewide access

Endocrinology services are in high demand, presenting a significant opportunity for growth. The next Division Director will have the opportunity to recruit additional faculty and build a robust team of expert endocrinologists to support the expansion of the academic medical center, which provides specialty care not available elsewhere in Oklahoma. The director will lead efforts to enhance outpatient operations across all areas of endocrinology, including obesity care, while also establishing innovative inpatient models, such as a standardized inpatient glycemia service to improve diabetes care system-wide. Additionally, the director will focus on expanding outreach clinics, telehealth capabilities, and seamless care transitions from pediatrics to adult endocrinology, extending the division's reach and impact throughout the state.

Build a vibrant and collaborative research enterprise

Endowed and philanthropic resources, coupled with strong institutional enthusiasm for metabolism and obesity research, provide a powerful platform for strategic investment and innovation. The division's access to the HHDC and its established laboratory and clinical research infrastructure provide a strong foundation for growth. The next director will have the opportunity to shape a unified research strategy that deepens integration across clinical and basic science, expands participation in clinical trials, and enhances multidisciplinary collaboration.

These goals align with the College's **Project 150** initiative to recruit renowned and successful investigators across several focus areas, including metabolism, and the University's Future of Health Research Strategic

Framework, which emphasizes innovation, collaboration, and measurable impact across disciplines. The director will play a key role in recruiting and supporting investigators whose work strengthens the division's visibility, advances basic and clinical science, and connects discovery directly to improved outcomes for patients and communities.

Advance education, mentorship, and faculty development

Education remains a core strength of the division, anchored by a respected fellowship program and faculty committed to teaching. The director will enhance mentorship and career development for junior faculty, expand scholarly engagement for trainees, and ensure that learners are integrated into both clinical and research programs. Building this culture of development will help sustain faculty retention and long-term excellence. The director will serve as a visible advocate for the division within the department, the health system, and the state, positioning OU as a regional leader in diabetes and metabolic care.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Candidates must have qualifications commensurate with an academic appointment at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. In addition, the ideal candidate will possess the following qualities and qualifications:

- MD, DO, MD/PhD, or equivalent clinical doctoral degree with board certification and license eligibility in Oklahoma;
- Administrative leadership experience in an academic medical center environment;
- Strong background and understanding of clinical operations and quality and patient safety;
- Demonstrated commitment to excellence in recruiting, retaining, and developing faculty;
- Record in scholarly achievement and prior success in obtaining extramural funding;
- Experience supporting and growing research and scholarship;
- Demonstrated commitment to the education mission and actively providing mentorship to residents, fellows, and medical students to cultivate and advance the workforce of the future;
- Effectiveness in a complex system of distributed leadership and experience working in a highly matrixed environment;
- Commitment to clinical excellence, accessibility, and expansion;
- Strong acumen and judgment in managing financial resources and the ability to develop and implement budgets effectively, aligning resources with strategic priorities;
- Experience promoting a welcoming culture in the workforce and academic environment;
- Commitment to addressing health disparities; and
- Demonstrated vision, a results-oriented approach, the highest level of integrity, and evidence of timely and principled decision-making.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City is a dynamic and welcoming city with a population of over 715,000 and a metro area exceeding 1 million residents. As the state capital, it boasts a diverse economy anchored by thriving sectors such as aerospace, healthcare, energy, bioscience, and technology. Oklahoma City offers a vibrant blend of urban energy and warm hospitality, making it an ideal place to live and work. With a thriving arts scene, diverse culinary options, and expansive green spaces, the city balances innovation with tradition. Its affordable cost of living, strong sense of community, and growing opportunities in healthcare, research, and education make it a welcoming destination for professionals and families alike. To explore Oklahoma City, please visit: <https://www.okcchamber.com/>

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the search process is completed. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website for the search: [Director of the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism | Isaacson, Miller](#). Electronic submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

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The University of Oklahoma, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, age, religion, disability, political beliefs, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to: admissions, employment, financial aid, housing, services in educational programs or activities, or health care services that the University operates or provides.

Why You Belong at the University of Oklahoma:

The University of Oklahoma fosters an inclusive culture of respect and civility, belonging, and access, which are essential to our collective pursuit of excellence and our determination to change lives. The unique talents, perspectives, and experiences of our community enrich the learning, and working environment at OU, inspiring us to harness our innovation, creativity, and collaboration for the advancement of people everywhere.

Mission of the University of Oklahoma:

The Mission of the University of Oklahoma is to provide the best possible educational experience for our students through excellence in teaching, research, and creative activity, and service to the state and society.

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and information provided by OUCM would supersede any conflicting information in this document.

APPENDIX

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Founded in 1890, the [University of Oklahoma](#) (OU) in Norman, Oklahoma, is the state's premier institution of higher education and a leading research university. It spans three campuses and boasts a student body of 31,000 enrolled in 170 academic programs. The University of Oklahoma invests \$416.6 million annually in research and development, fueling a \$2.05 billion enterprise dedicated to advancing scholarship and improving lives across the state. As part of its [strategic plan](#), the University has set a bold goal to recruit 150 new research investigators, further strengthening its commitment to discovery and innovation.

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA HEALTH CAMPUS (OUHC)

Located in Oklahoma City, [OUHC](#) is one of the nation's few academic health centers with seven professional colleges on-site, including [Medicine](#), [Allied Health](#), [Dentistry](#), [Nursing](#), [Pharmacy](#), [Public Health](#), and [Graduate Studies](#). With an annual budget of \$900 million, OUHC employs over 800 full-time faculty and 4,000 staff. It educates and trains nearly 4,000 students and 1,000 residents, post-docs, and fellows across more than 70 undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

With the largest portfolio of National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding in the state, COM grew its research portfolio by more than \$4 million last year, to \$64.4 million. Currently ranked 72nd according to the Blue Ridge Rankings, OUCM aims to rank in the top 60 in the next five years and in the top 50 within 10 years.

OU HEALTH

OU Health traces its recent history to 2018, when OU Medicine, Inc. was established as a locally owned nonprofit to assume hospital operations. In June 2021, the University of Oklahoma and the University Hospitals Authority and Trust signed a historic agreement to merge clinics and hospitals into the new health system, OU Health. After this merger, OU Medicine and OU Physicians, the faculty practice, were combined under OU Health. Today, OU Health is Oklahoma's only comprehensive academic health system, bringing together hospitals, clinics, and centers of excellence. With 10,000 employees and more than

1,300 physicians and advanced practice providers, OU Health is home to Oklahoma's largest doctor network, [OU Health Physicians](#), with nearly one million patient visits per year.

OU Health's flagship adult hospital, [the University of Oklahoma Medical Center](#), serves as the state's only Level 1 Trauma Center and includes the [Harold Hamm Diabetes Center](#); the renowned [Dean McGee Eye Institute](#) is also on the campus. OU Health serves Oklahoma and the region with the state's only dedicated free-standing children's hospital, [Oklahoma Children's Hospital](#). It also hosts the state's only National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated cancer center, the OU Health [Stephenson Cancer Center](#). [OU Health Edmond Medical Center](#) is a community hospital in the network. OU Health also has clinical affiliations with [Oklahoma City Veterans Affairs Medical Center](#) and other major hospitals and clinics across Oklahoma.

[Dr. Richard P. Lofgren](#), MD, MPH, FACP, became the inaugural President and CEO of OU Health in March 2022. In this role, he leads the health system, overseeing strategic vision, clinical and operational direction, growth, quality, safety, financial performance, and integration. A board-certified internal medicine physician with nearly 40 years of experience, Dr. Lofgren is a national leader in academic healthcare and healthcare delivery redesign. He is known for uniting hospitals, clinics, and centers into a cohesive enterprise with a focus on performance improvement and health system transformation.