

Brainwaves Faculty Feature: Dr. Ingrid Loma-Miller

Like many UPMC physicians, Dr. Ingrid Loma-Miller defines her relationships as essential to her work. From specializing in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS) to contributing to an inclusion-focused panel to mentor medical students, Dr. Loma-Miller continually emphasizes collaboration, equity and work-life balance for herself and other physicians.

In her work with MS, she describes transformative collaboration with fellow MS specialists as well as colleagues across UPMC departments. “Exposure to such incredible colleagues pushes me harder and challenges me to do even better work,” she said.

Dr. Loma-Miller received her bachelor’s degree from Reed College in Portland, OR, and her medical degree from the Medical School Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara in Jalisco, Mexico, before completing her post-doctoral fellowship in MS at UPMC. She worked as neurologist-MS specialist and then medical director at the Multiple Sclerosis Center of Tidewater, but her goal of collaborating with residents, fellows and other MS clinical researchers ultimately drew her back to Pittsburgh.

Since rejoining UPMC, she’s served as a mentor to the next generation of medical professionals. She aims to support residents and fellows—and especially women in neurology—and described how students might work to achieve personal and professional goals and how they might maintain an open, problem-solving attitude in their careers.

Dr. Loma-Miller has expanded her expertise beyond her own department as well, from joining a panel addressing health care inequalities for individuals who are obese to working with MS specialists across UPMC. These latter collaborations have allowed her to see how others seek the same knowledge sharing, all for the benefit of patients.

“There are adult neurologists who transitioned to do pediatric MS ... and pediatric neurologists who transitioned to do adult MS,” she said. “Neurology offers an opportunity to help grow treatment options for children through collaborations with adult and pediatric neurologists.”