

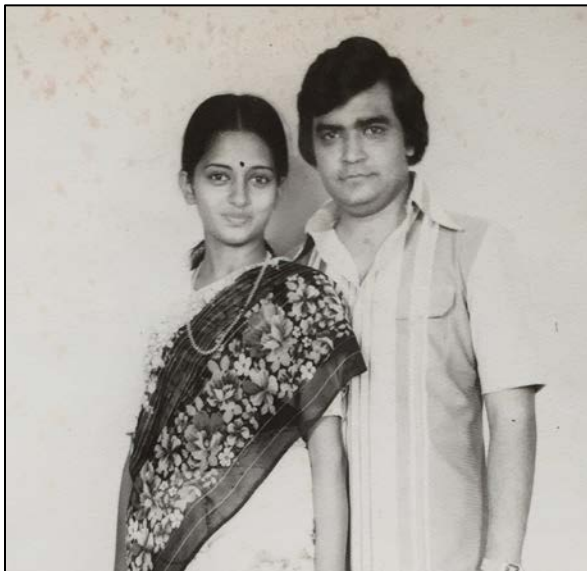
FUJIFILM SONOSITE GLOBAL HEALTH PROFILE

Dr. Summit Shah

Dr. Summit Shah is a Fellow of Pediatric Radiology at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH.

What made you want to enter the medical field?

My desires to enter the medical field, and to help others, stem from my parents and the upbringing they provided. My parents are both first generation Indian immigrants who emphasized work ethic and strong moral principles. Compassion for all was the focus of our religion, and it was instilled in me at an early age.



Dr. Shah's parents, Manisha and Harshad Shah

My parents devoted their lives to helping others in their community. For as long as I can remember, they both worked 60 plus hours a



“At an early age, I recognized the joy my parents received from serving others, and I craved that same joy with my life and career.”



week but still spent every moment outside of work serving their community.

If anyone needed anything, my parents would be there for them. At an early age, I recognized the joy they received from serving others, and I craved that same joy with my life and career.

Medicine provides me with this joy while also challenging me to work harder, to increase my level of empathy, and to help those who are less privileged. I could not feel more blessed to have received this inspiration from my family and to be in this field.

Which organizations do you volunteer with?

For the past six years, I have joined an annual medical trip with [PODEMOS](#) and the [Ohio State College of Medicine](#) to serve El Progreso, Honduras.

Additionally, for the past three years, I have joined a medical and construction mission trip with [Manos Juntas](#) to serve Rio Bravo, Mexico, and the surrounding communities.



Scheduling patients in Honduras

What do you enjoy the most about medical volunteering?

My favorite part of these trips is the comradery that inevitably develops among the trip members and relationships that develop with the local volunteers year to year. Seeing everyone's giving spirit and passion for helping the

underserved is inspiring and contagious. I also love learning about the local culture and communities.



I believe that the exposure to everyday circumstances and interactions with native individuals on these trips is invaluable in developing empathy.

What kind of ultrasound training do you have?

As a radiologist, I have worked with ultrasound since medical school and throughout my training.

The opportunity to take a portable ultrasound machine on medical mission trips thanks to SonoSite has motivated me to proactively seek additional hands-on ultrasound experience and training at work.



Patients lining up for care in Honduras

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Do you have a particular story from your volunteer work that you can share with us?

Over the years, several memorable experiences stand out particularly with the use of portable ultrasound in the international setting.



Scanning an abscess

The most dramatic occurrence was from two years ago in El Progreso, Honduras when a 17-year old patient came in with severe abdominal pain. Her symptoms had been ongoing for the past several months with no clear etiology.

Sonographic evaluation quickly revealed free fluid throughout her abdomen and pelvis along with an extra-uterine fetus compatible with a ruptured ectopic pregnancy. The patient had been dealing with this emergent condition for months with no access to medical care in her rural village.



Visiting doctors, staff, and patients in Honduras

Thankfully, we were able to personally rush her to the city to receive a life-saving operation by a local physician with whom we had an established relationship.

It is often easy to underestimate the effect that a mission trip has with such limited resources, but it truly has the ability to save a person's life. This serves as constant inspiration for continuing to serve on future trips and helping others in any way possible.

Who accompanied you in Mexico and Honduras?

For the PODEMOS trip to El Progreso, Honduras we have had diverse, interdisciplinary teams consisting of primary care physicians, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, dentists, and students in each of those disciplines.



Strategizing with colleagues

For the Manos Juntas trip to Rio Bravo, Mexico, we have physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and several local medical professionals.

Is there anything else you want readers to know about you and your work?

In addition to international medical work, I have a deep passion for helping those who are under privileged in my own community.

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My family grew up without health insurance and was often limited in access to care secondary to monetary, language, or cultural barriers.



Dr. Shah's parents in the 1970s

Reflecting on these experiences, it is my hope to help as many individuals as possible in similar circumstances here in the United States.

Can readers donate toward your trips?

Yes, you can find the PODEMOS donation page here: <http://podemosu.org/w/donatetoday/>

About SonoSite Global Health Programs

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), over 60% of the world's population has no access to diagnostic medical imaging. SonoSite is working to lower that statistic.

Fujifilm SonoSite's Global Health program provides free loaned ultrasound machines to physicians traveling to under-served regions of the world. These practitioners bring advanced ultrasound technology and educational programs to patients that would otherwise have no access to this imaging modality due to social conditions, remote locations, or lack of funds.

While FUJIFILM SonoSite supports the improvement of health care in the global

community, we do not officially endorse any of the charities and organizations that are mentioned, or linked to, on our Global Health page.

To find out more, please visit sonosite.com/about/global-health.