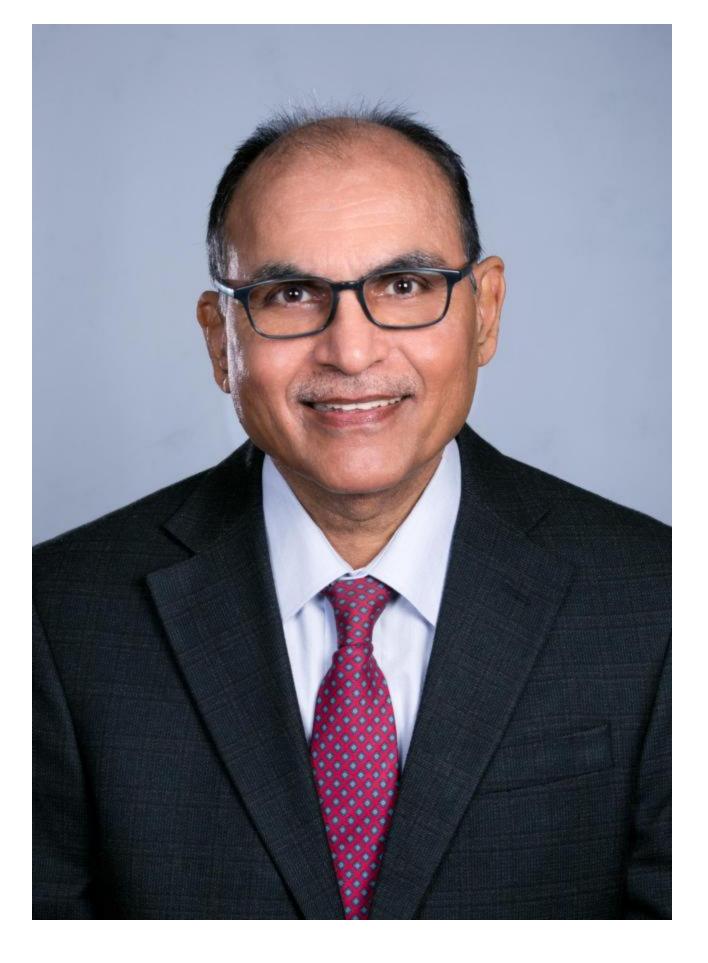


OSF Healthcare Saint Anthony's Health Center Welcomes New Provider In Bethalto

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BETHALTO - OSF HealthCare Saint Anthony's Health Center is pleased to welcome Raj Patel, M.D. to its staff.

Dr. Patel has been a physician in the Riverbend area for more than 20 years as an independent physician who often served patients of OSF HealthCare. He currently holds the position of Medical Director for Internal Medicine for OSF Saint Anthony's Health Center and serves on The Medical Executive Committee. Dr. Patel specializes in Internal Medicine, applying his expertise to diagnose, treat and offer compassionate care for adults across the spectrum from preventative care and chronic disease management, to treatment of complex illness.

"We are pleased to welcome Dr. Raj Patel to OSF HealthCare Medical Group. His reputation among his patients is as good as it gets. He is professional, smart, compassionate, trustworthy – all of the things that you want your doctor to be," said Dr. Dennis Sands, Vice President and Chief Medical Officer. "He absolutely exemplifies the Mission of OSF HealthCare to 'Serve with the Greatest Care and Love' and we are excited for him to officially join the OSF HealthCare family."

Before a blessing of his office last Friday, an OSF HealthCare tradition, Dr. Patel shared that he is excited to no longer have to worry about the administration and business side of running his own practice. Now, he said, "I look forward to focusing on why I got into medicine in the first place – to provide the greatest care to my patients."

Dr. Patel received his medical education from NHL Municipal Medical College in India in 1970 and his Master of Surgery from K.M. School of Postgraduate Medicine in Research, India in 1982. He completed his Internal Medicine Residency at Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn, NY in 1990.

Dr. Patel's office is located at 404 W Bethalto Drive in Bethalto, Illinois. Appointments can be made by calling (618) 377-6410.