



## 2024 American Pediatric Society Election Candidate

**Position:** Councilor

**Candidate:** Rashmin C. Savani, MBChB

**Institution(s):** University of Florida College of Medicine and  
Shands Children's Hospital

**Subspecialty:** Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine

## **Candidate Statement of Interest**

As a dedicated pediatrician with a passion for advancing child health, I am eager to contribute my skills, experience, and perspectives to the vital work of the American Pediatric Society. Throughout my career, I have been committed to clinical excellence, advocacy, education, and research in pediatric medicine. My clinical work has provided me with an understanding of the challenges facing children and their families, and I have witnessed the transformative impact that dedicated professionals can have on the lives of young patients. I am drawn to the APS Council because of its influential role in shaping the policies and initiatives that drive progress in pediatric medicine. I believe that my background as a physician-scientist equips me with a well-rounded perspective that will help advance the future of academic pediatrics. I am particularly interested in leveraging my experience to address current issues, such as the development of future physician-scientists, child health disparities, and the integration of innovative technologies into pediatric care. I am a strong proponent of interdisciplinary teams, fostering open communication, and promoting diversity and inclusion in clinical and academic settings. These qualities align with the values of APS and are essential for creating a cohesive and forward-thinking Council. Furthermore, my involvement in national and regional pediatric organizations has allowed me to develop a broad network of colleagues and collaborators to enhance the visibility and impact of the APS, both within the medical community and among the general public. In conclusion, I am deeply passionate about the mission of the APS and am eager to contribute to the APS Council. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing success of the APS and to furthering its mission to shape the future of academic pediatrics and thereby improve the health outcomes of children.

Rashmin C. Savani, MBChB  
Professor, Nemours Eminent Scholar, and Chair, Department of Pediatrics  
University of Florida College of Medicine  
Physician-in-Chief, Shands Children's Hospital

## **Rashmin C. Savani, MBChB**

Dr. Savani was born in Uganda and moved to the United Kingdom at 12 years of age. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Sheffield, England in 1982 and undertook internships in Internal Medicine (1982), General Surgery (1983), and Obstetrics and Gynecology (1984) in the UK. After completing his residency in pediatrics at Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC, in 1987, he went on to hold fellowships in neonatology and pulmonary biology at Cincinnati Children's Medical Center, which he completed in 1991. Dr. Savani then became an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Section of Neonatology at the University of Manitoba and Children's Hospital, Winnipeg, Canada, 1991-1996. During this time, he undertook further postgraduate training in Cell and Molecular Biology at the Manitoba Institute of Cell Biology. It was here that he had an independent lab at the Institute until he was recruited to the University of Pennsylvania and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in 1996. There, he rose to the rank of Associate Professor with Tenure, a position he held until he was recruited to UT Southwestern in 2006, where he was Professor and Chief of the Division of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at UT Southwestern and held the William Buchanan Chair in Pediatrics. He was also the Associate Director of the Center for Pulmonary and Vascular Biology in the Department of Pediatrics, the Chief of Pediatrics at Parkland Health and Hospital System, the Director of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at Children's Medical Center of Dallas, and the Chief of Neonatology at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas. He led a neonatal system consisting of four institutions with integrated and high-quality care, including a robust telemedicine service, innovative research, and excellent training programs. In August 2022, Dr. Savani was recruited as Chair of the Department of Pediatrics, holds the Nemours Eminent Scholar Chair at the University of Florida College of Medicine, and serves as Physician-in-Chief at the University of Florida Shands Children's Hospital, Gainesville.

Dr. Savani has been a member of the Society for Pediatric Research since 1999 and of The American Pediatric Society since 2005. He served on the Communications and Website Committee of the Society for Pediatric Research and The American Pediatric Society (2010 to 2014). He was a member (1997-2006), Program Chair (2002-2003), and Secretary-Treasurer (2003-2006) of the Eastern Society for Pediatric Research. He has also been a member of the Perinatal Research Society (since 1999), a member of the International Perinatal Collegium (since 2013), and a Council Member of the International Perinatal Consortium since 2020.

Dr. Savani has an active laboratory investigating the basic mechanisms of lung development and injury in neonates with a focus on inflammation and angiogenesis as it relates to Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia and on mechanisms of TLR activation of the NLRP3 inflammasome. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed papers, reviews, and book chapters. He has received several honors and awards, including the Young Investigator Award from the AAP, the Texas March of Dimes Physician Excellence Award, and membership of the National Science Committee of the Investment Fund at the March of Dimes. He has served on the Editorial Boards of the American Journal of Physiology-Lung Cell and Molecular Physiology, The Journal of Biological Chemistry, The Journal of Clinical Investigation, Matrix Biology and Matrix Biology Plus, and Proteoglycans Research. He has been funded by the NHLBI, NIDDK, and NCATS at the NIH, as well as The American Lung Association, The American Heart Association, and The March of Dimes.