



Speaker Biographies



Mark Urata, MD, DDS

*Division Chief of Plastic & Maxillofacial Surgery, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Audrey Skirball Kenis Endowed Chair and Chief of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery,
Keck School of Medicine of University of Southern California
Associate Dean of Surgery and Hospital Affairs of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery,
Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC Los Angeles, CA*

Mark Urata, MD, DDS, is Professor and Division Head of Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Chair and Chief of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the Keck School of Medicine, and Chair of the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the Ostrow School of Dentistry of the University of Southern California. He is a board certified and craniofacial trained surgeon. In addition to treating patients, Dr. Urata has a well-established track record in craniofacial research, both clinically and in the laboratory.

In his clinical research, he has developed new techniques to improve current procedures and has assessed the outcomes of these novel surgical procedures to treat Pierre Robin Sequence and cleft lip and palate. In addition, Dr. Urata is always striving to improve outcomes for his patients and is therefore especially interested in quality-of-life measures for people living with craniofacial conditions. Through his collaborations with molecular and developmental biologists, he has also had the honor of helping to start a translational medicine project with the aim of bringing a treatment for craniosynostosis that is less invasive than surgery from bench to bedside.



Alessia Johns, PhD, ABPP

*Pediatric Psychologist, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics,
Keck School of Medicine of University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA*

Alessia Johns, PhD, ABPP is a board-certified pediatric psychologist at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles in the Division of Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery and the USC University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. She is an Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

Dr. Johns has focused on craniofacial diagnoses since 2007 and represents psychology on several multidisciplinary teams, including Craniofacial, Craniosynostosis, Facial Paralysis, and Orthognathic Surgery. She provides individual, family, and group therapy and assessment in English and Spanish and supervises APA post-doctoral fellows. She is collaborating on several national and international research projects with craniofacial populations. She is editor for the Behavioral Sciences section of *The Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal* and participates in American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (ACPA) committees.