

UAMS News Bureau

Office of Communications & Marketing
4301 West Markham # 890
Little Rock, AR 72205-7199

uamshealth.com/news



News Release
Aug. 30, 2021

Media Contacts:

Leslie W. Taylor, 501-686-8998
Wireless phone: 501-951-7260
leslie@uams.edu

Yavonda Chase, 501-686-8995
Wireless phone: 501-416-0354
yavonda@uams.edu

UAMS OB/GYN is First in State to Obtain Focused Practice Designation for Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery

LITTLE ROCK — Luann Racher, M.D., an assistant professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), is the first physician in the state to obtain a focused practice designation for minimally invasive gynecologic surgery.

The designation from the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG) recognizes certified specialists who have additional surgical expertise and dedicate a significant percentage of their practice to the care of women with benign and complex gynecologic diseases using minimally invasive surgical techniques.

Racher earned her medical degree from UAMS in 2010 and completed her residency in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in 2014. She is also the director of the UAMS Vulvar Clinic.

“We are proud to offer patients minimally invasive options for their surgical needs through Dr. Racher, who is highly skilled in these techniques,” said Nirvana Manning, M.D., chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. “Large fibroids, advanced endometriosis or adhesions from prior procedures shouldn’t limit patients’ choices when it comes to gynecologic surgery. By providing less invasive surgical options, we are able to offer women less postoperative pain, less risk of infection and less recovery time.”

Racher is proficient in hysteroscopic, laparoscopic and vaginal surgical approaches. She offers in-office diagnostic and operative hysteroscopy using the Endosee Handheld Hysteroscopy System that provides immediate diagnostic information during office visits.

She is the first gynecologist in Arkansas to offer Vaginal Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery (vNOTES), a way to perform surgery through the vagina without any incisions in the abdomen, and laparoscopic radiofrequency ablation of uterine fibroids using the Acessa platform, a uterine sparing technique for fibroids. She is also proficient in robotic surgery and performs laparoscopic hysterectomy and myomectomy using the Xi DaVinci Surgical System.

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; hospital; a main campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Translational Research Institute and Institute for Digital Health & Innovation. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise including its hospital, regional clinics and clinics it operates or staffs in cooperation with other providers. UAMS is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. *U.S. News & World Report* recognized UAMS Medical Center as a Best Hospital for 2021-22; ranked its ear, nose and throat program among the top 50 nationwide for the third year; and named five areas as high performing — colon cancer surgery, diabetes, hip replacement, knee replacement and stroke. *Forbes* magazine ranked UAMS as seventh in the nation on its Best Employers for Diversity list. UAMS also ranked in the top 30% nationwide on *Forbes*' Best Employers for Women list and was the only Arkansas employer included. UAMS has 2,876 students, 898 medical residents and six dental residents. It is the state's largest public employer with more than 10,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses, Arkansas Children's, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit www.uams.edu or www.uamshealth.com. Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).

Like us, we're social:    