

Dr. Maria Artunduaga

CHANGING HOW AMERICA BREATHES



BACKGROUND

Born in Colombia, Dr. Maria Artunduaga earned her medical degree from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana before continuing her education in the United States at Harvard University, the University of Washington, UC Berkeley, and UCSF. While training as a plastic surgeon at the University of Chicago, the death of her grandmother from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) inspired her to leave surgery and develop technologies that could detect lung disease earlier and save lives.

CAREER

Leaving her surgical career, Dr. Maria Artunduaga chose a riskier path; inventing a technology that could redefine respiratory medicine. She founded Samay and created Sylvee, an AI powered wearable that can detect subtle changes in lung health years before conventional testing, allowing physicians to intervene before irreversible damage occurs. Supported by the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health, her invention is one of the most promising advances in early lung disease detection and remote patient monitoring in decades.

IMPACT

Dr. Artunduaga's work is helping reshape how Americans receive care; moving medicine beyond the hospital and into the home. By pioneering AI powered respiratory technology and breaking barriers as a Latina founder in medtech, she is proving that America's greatest medical breakthroughs are strengthened by the talent and determination of immigrants.

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