

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL  
A. JULIO MARTINEZ  
MEMORIAL LECTURE

# “A Histone Tale of Pediatric Gliomas”

by Sriram Venneti, MD, PhD

Wednesday, April 27, 2022  
Noon-1 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://pitt.zoom.us/j/95877449301>

## PROGRAM

Noon WELCOME AND  
INTRODUCTION OF THE  
GUEST SPEAKER

### Clayton Wiley, MD, PhD

Professor of Pathology  
Director, Division of Neuropathology  
PERF Endowed Chair  
University of Pittsburgh  
School of Medicine

12:15 p.m. A. JULIO MARTINEZ  
MEMORIAL LECTURE

### Sriram Venneti, MD, PhD

Associate Professor of Pathology and Pediatrics  
Associate Professor of Neuropathology  
Al and Robert Glick Family Research  
Professor of Pediatrics  
University of Michigan School of Medicine

## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Clayton A. Wiley, MD, PhD  
Karen M. Weber

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2007 Virginia M.-Y. Lee, PhD  
2006 Eliezer Masliah, MD  
2005 Govinda Visvesvara, PhD

## A. JULIO MARTINEZ, MD



A. Julio Martinez, MD, was born in 1930 in Santa Cruz del Sur, Cuba. He received his MD from the University of Havana School of Medicine in 1959 but fled communist Cuba in 1962. In 1969, he completed his neuropathology fellowship

at Case Western Reserve University and then served as an assistant professor of pathology at the Medical College of Virginia. He later taught as an associate professor at the University of Tennessee but returned to Virginia in 1972. There he encountered a situation that would profoundly influence his career. After swimming in a pond, several children fell into comas and died. Neuropathologists found that a free-living amoeba had infected their brains. Deeply affected by the tragedy, Martinez decided to dedicate his career to studying such pathogens. He is remembered today as one of the world's leading authorities on the neuropathology of amoebic infections.

In 1976, Martinez joined the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine as an associate professor of pathology. During his professional career, he published 185 scientific articles and received numerous awards. In 1991, *Hispanic Business* magazine named him one of the 100 most influential Hispanics in the United States. As a political refugee, he helped many people who had escaped authoritarian regimes.

In 2000, Martinez officially retired, becoming professor emeritus. On December 27, 2002, after 26 years with the Department of Pathology, he died. He is fondly remembered for his contributions to the field of neuropathology, for his keen diagnostic eye, and especially for his warm and approachable personality.



## Sriram Venneti, MD, PhD

Associate Professor of Pathology and Pediatrics  
Associate Professor of Neuropathology  
Al and Robert Glick Family Research Professor of Pediatrics  
University of Michigan School of Medicine

Sriram Venneti is a neuropathologist and physician-scientist whose work focuses on understanding the biology of pediatric brain tumors. He is an associate professor of pathology and pediatrics and the Al and Robert Glick Family Research Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Michigan School of Medicine. His laboratory explores the role of epigenetics and cancer metabolism in pediatric brain tumors, including ependymomas, diffuse intrinsic pontine gliomas and pediatric glioblastomas. His work has been recognized with accolades that include the Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for Childhood Cancer New Innovator Award, Hyundai Hope Research Scholar Award, Sontag Foundation Distinguished Scientist Award, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Clinical Scientist Development Award, American Society for Clinical Investigation Young Physician-Scientist Award and Sidney Kimmel Foundation Kimmel Scholar Award.

