

Chapter Member Spotlight



Name: Emma Burdekin, M.D., F.A.A.P.

Practice Location: Los Angeles, CA

Number of Years in Practice: 1 year!

Dr. Emma Burdekin is a general pediatrician at UCLA. She earned her undergraduate degree from Pomona College before attending the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. She completed residency and served as Chief Resident at UCLA before joining the faculty in the Division of General Pediatrics at UCLA in July 2026. She practices at the UCLA Children's Health Center and the Venice Family Clinic Simms/Mann Health & Wellness Center. She is also completing the second year of the Medical Education Fellowship at UCLA.

Dr. Burdekin served as the Medical Student and Resident Representative for AAP Chapter 2 and recently joined the Chapter Board as a Member-At-Large in July 2026. She is passionate about primary care, mental health, medical education, and advocacy within pediatrics. Originally from Claremont, CA, she now lives in Santa Monica with her husband and their dog, Noodle. Outside of medicine, she enjoys exploring new restaurants, spending time outdoors, and traveling to new places.

What do you do before work that sets the tone for your day?

Go for a walk with Noodle and always start the day with some fruit!

What are some challenges or struggles that you face at work?

Navigating the ever-growing barriers to care that our patients face

How do you work through or overcome your challenges or struggles?

Feeling empowered through advocating for my patients, taking joy in the every-day successes with my patients, their families, and the residents and students I teach, and leaning on my colleagues and friends/family for support.

After work, what do you do for your own wellness?

More walks with Noodle, spending time outside, and quality time with my family and friends. Recently my husband and I have been really enjoying caring for our passion fruit plants and watching hummingbirds visit our feeder!

From what/whom does your inspiration or motivation stem?

Advocating and caring for my patients and their families and training the next generation of pediatricians

Wellness Tip: What is the one thing you would recommend to our readership to do each day to take care of oneself?

Do something every day that's just for your happiness, with no other agenda.