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## The Sunitha Thakur Lab

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Sunitha B. Thakur, PhD

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I am an assistant attending physicist in the Departments of Medical Physics and Radiology, where I collaborate with radiologists, neurologists, and physicists to develop and validate new magnetic resonance (MR) biomarkers to aid in the early detection of cancer, identify aggressive tumor growth, and evaluate treatment response. Specifically, I am developing biomarkers to understand the metabolism, biology, and vasculature of breast and brain tumors.

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## Publications Highlights

[Thakur SB, Brennan SB, Ishill NM, Morris EA, Liberman L, Dershaw DD, Bartella L, Koutcher JA, Huang W. Diagnostic usefulness of water-to-fat ratio and choline concentration in malignant and benign breast lesions and normal breast parenchyma: An in vivo 1H MRS study. \*J Magn Reson Imaging\*. 2011 Apr;33\(4\):855-63.](#)

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[Yaligar J, Thakur SB\\*, Bokacheva L\\*, Carlin S, Thaler HT, Rizwan A, Lupu ME, Wang Y, Matei CC, Zakian KL, and Koutcher JA. Lactate MR spectroscopic imaging and DCE MRI as surrogate markers of prostate tumor aggressiveness. \*NMR in Biomed\*. 2012 Jan;25\(1\):113-22. \\*indicates equal contributing author](#)

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[Ballangrud AM, Lymberis SS, Thakur SB, Karimi S, Huang W, Abrey LE, Beal K, Iwamoto FM, Brennan C, Gutin PH, Chang J. Magnetic resonance spectroscopy imaging \(MRSI\) in radiotherapy planning for recurrent glioma. \*Med Phys\*. 2011 May;38\(5\):2724-30.](#)

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[Huang W, Tudorica LA, Li X, Thakur SB, Chen Y, Morris EA, Tagge IJ, Korenblit M, Rooney WD, Koutcher JA and Springer CS, Jr. Discrimination of benign and malignant breast lesions by using shutter-speed dynamic contrast-enhanced MR imaging. \*Radiology\*. 2011 Nov; 261\(2\):394-403. Epub 2011 Aug 9.](#)

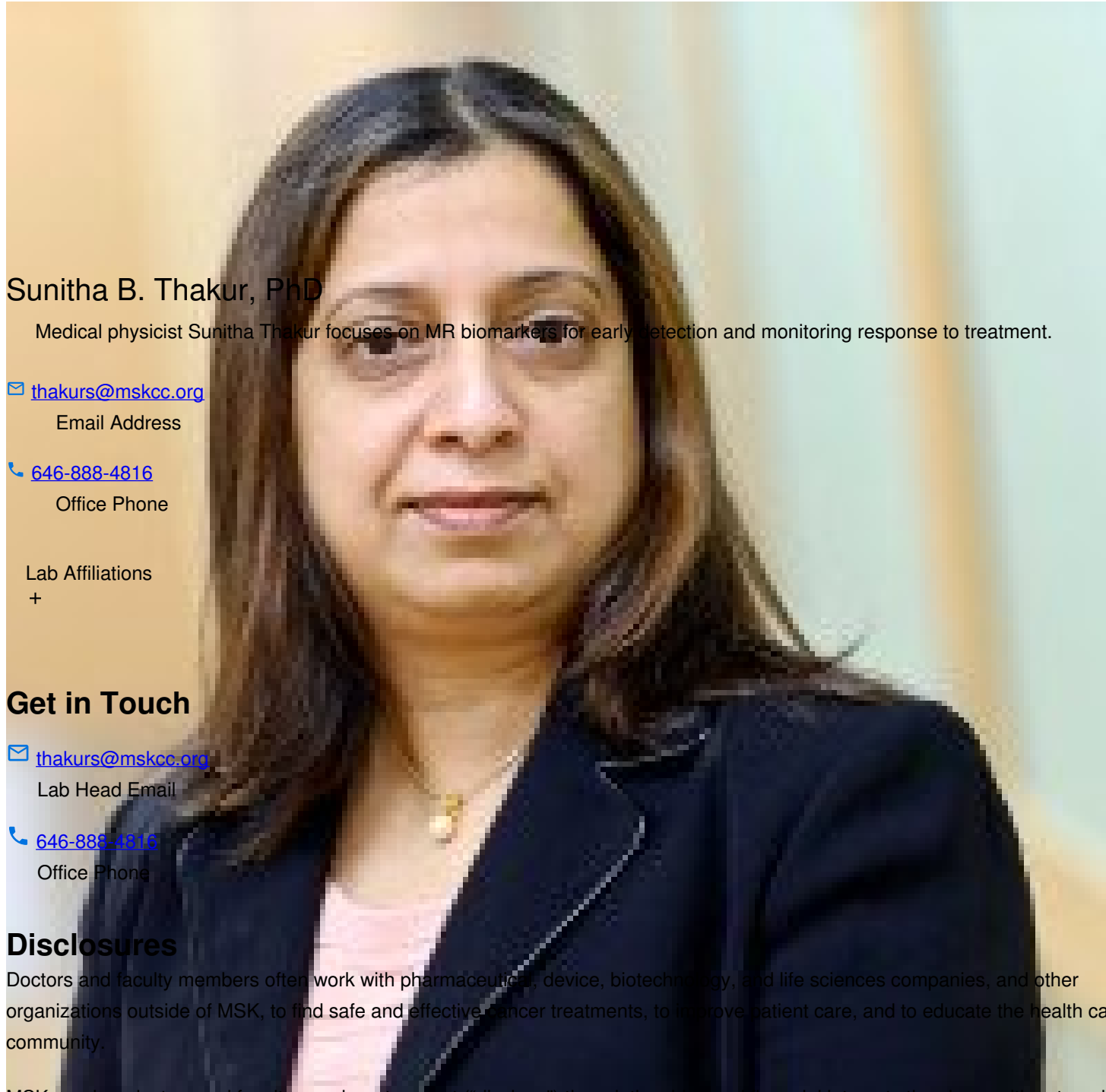
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[Serganova I, Rizwan A, Ni X, Thakur SB, Vider J, Russell J, Blasberg R, Koutcher JA. Metabolic imaging: a link between lactate dehydrogenase A, lactate, and tumor phenotype. \*Clin Cancer Res\*. 2011 Oct 1;17\(19\):6250-61. Epub 2011 Aug 15.](#)

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## People



## Sunitha B. Thakur, PhD

Medical physicist Sunitha Thakur focuses on MR biomarkers for early detection and monitoring response to treatment.

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## Disclosures

Doctors and faculty members often work with pharmaceutical, device, biotechnology, and life sciences companies, and other organizations outside of MSK, to find safe and effective cancer treatments, to improve patient care, and to educate the health care community.

MSK requires doctors and faculty members to report ("disclose") the relationships and financial interests they have with external entities. As a commitment to transparency with our community, we make that information available to the public.

Sunitha B. Thakur discloses the following relationships and financial interests:

*No disclosures meeting criteria for time period*

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