



SARAH
AVERY, MD, FACR

Austin Radiological
Association



Austin, TX



23 Years in Practice

Practice/National Leadership Activities

- National and State level:
 - President of Texas Radiological Society
 - Councilor & alternate councilor to ACR
 - Radiology Advocacy Network Board Member
 - Former Society of Breast Imaging Chair of the Membership Committee.
- Local level:
 - Liaison for multiple stakeholders for setting up a mobile mammography unit for underserved patients & principal interpreting physician
 - Outreach to high school & medical students to raise awareness about radiology & to inspire youth to consider careers in radiology.
- Within My Practice:
 - Former section chief of breast imaging with a staff of up to 15 breast imagers, covering most hospitals & many outpatient centers in central Texas.
 - Medical director at an outpatient imaging center
 - Member of the Radiology Partners Advocacy Support Board

Interesting Facts & Hobbies

- I love going to museums with family and friends. I have a loose goal to visit all the top museums in the world. So far I have been to the Metropolitan Museum in New York, the Tate Modern in London, the Prado in Spain, the State Hermitage Museum in Russia, the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam, and the Louvre in Paris to name a few. One of my goals is to get to Vienna to see the museums there as well.
- I have been to every Disney park in the world- Tokyo, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Paris, Florida and California!

What is your favorite thing about private practice?

So many things! I love the endlessly interesting work with varying disease processes, interacting with the patients, and the busy practice. I have the ability to do biopsies and interact, especially in breast imaging, to help put patients at ease and make the experience and process as comfortable as possible for patients. I enjoy working with local physicians as a consultant to dedicated breast surgical oncologists. It is interesting to also work in emergency radiology and interact with physicians and surgeons. I get some time alone in the reading room, some with patients and some consulting. My work is mostly at an outpatient imaging center.

Why did you decide to join private practice?

I love the work! Reading films, interacting with patients, and doing biopsies. I wanted to be doing that direct level of work all the time. Breast imaging fellowship was less common at that time- I was the first breast fellowship trained radiologist hired by my group and was excited to bring that to the practice. I enjoy reading a little bit of everything and being a multispecialty radiologist with an emphasis on breast imaging.

If you had to give one piece of advice to trainees considering private practice vs academics what would it be?

Think very carefully about what type of work and home life you want and work/life balance. Be aware that now more than ever there are so many different types of opportunity in private practice. Work from home is an option, or hybrid, even in a subspecialized way in private practice. Consider how you want to keep your skill set active. Consider if you want to be onsite, what type of place you want to live and work (urban, suburban, rural, hospital vs outpatient, etc.). There is so much variability. Just explore what's out there and what meets goals for career, work and family. Begin early to give back to your profession/career; think about what's right for you and how you can be involved. Think about how much time you want to give to your family and to your work. Consider what you can do for everyone- for me it's advocacy at the state and national level. Everyone has an opportunity to do that.