

## The Vision of the Coastal Sinus and Allergy Center

Dr. Leatherman started the Coastal Sinus and Allergy Center as part of his vision to create a specialty center dedicated to the comprehensive management of sinus and nasal disorders. Allergy management is a key component to many sinus and nasal problems. Dr. Leatherman has had a passion for nasal, sinus, and allergy problems since his early residency training. It was during that time he started spending extra time learning about allergy, sinus, and nasal disorders, in addition to the other rigorous ear, nose, and throat surgery training. After finishing his residency, Dr. Leatherman became deeply involved in research and teaching about sinus and nasal problems, particularly in the area of allergy management. He spent two years at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and The Arkansas Children's Hospital helping develop sinus and allergy specialty clinics. He ultimately decided to move to Gulfport, Mississippi to live around his family, but his interest in education and research did not stop. He has been involved in teaching at national educational events for over 12 years. He has written numerous journal articles and book chapters. He continues to participate in ongoing research, and helps residents at various otolaryngology training programs design and carry out research projects in sinus and allergy topics. He has developed a reputation as a national leader in the otolaryngology allergy field, helping to develop some of the educational standards and allergy management techniques taught to both residents in training, and practicing otolaryngologists. He has developed a particular expertise in the subject of sublingual immunotherapy (immunotherapy drops under the tongue, instead of injections), and led the development of the current technique of sublingual immunotherapy most commonly used by otolaryngologists across the United States.

With his many years of experience as a national thought leader in the allergic management of sinus and nasal problems, in basic and clinical research, and as an accomplished sinus and nasal surgeon, Dr. Leatherman decided to start a specialty center that would incorporate this hard earned expertise into the management of these problems in his local community. His vision was to create a center where patients with allergies, chronic nasal problems, and chronic sinusitis can come for comprehensive management of all these problems in one place. Dr. Leatherman strongly believes that most patients with persistent nasal problems, allergies, and chronic sinusitis can obtain relief from their symptoms with lifestyle changes and proper medication management, thus avoiding surgical management that carries risks and significant cost. Some patients, however, do require surgical intervention for adequate relief from their symptoms. In those situations, Dr. Leatherman can employ the most advanced surgical techniques available for sinus surgery, and other nasal surgeries, as part of a comprehensive treatment program.

Dr. Leatherman decided to create the slogan "Making Relief a Reality", as a phrase that briefly, yet eloquently, summarizes his vision for his patients. Many people have spent years feeling that there is no further hope for obtaining relief from their bothersome sinus and allergy symptoms, and have decided to live down to their symptoms. "Making Relief a Reality" summarizes Dr. Leatherman's belief, that with expert evaluation and treatment, most patients can indeed experience relief from these often lifetime symptoms that have significantly reduced their quality of life.