



## Dr. Hope O'Brien

### Area of Practice

Headache Medicine  
General Neurology

### Education & Experience

I received my medical degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, where I also completed my residency in Adult Neurology. I completed fellowship training in Headache Medicine at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and joined the faculty.

While at Children's, I developed the Young Adult Headache Program while serving as Associate Professor and Fellowship Director for Headache Medicine Education. Recently, I went back to school and received an Executive MBA degree from Xavier University.

### What's Your Motivation for Becoming a Physician?

When I was growing up, I saw few physicians who looked like me. Based on a report published in 2018 by the Association of American Medical Colleges, 5% of physicians are Black. I made it my mission to turn my love for science into a profession that would motivate others to be a part of the solution and join the medical profession.

### Who in Black History Inspires You?

I am inspired by the Black men and women who forged the difficult path in becoming physicians, especially in the earlier years.

### How have Diversity and Inclusion Impacted your Career Path? Did it Hinder or Help?

I, as well as other physicians of color in my field, have seen attempts to create an environment that is both diverse and inclusive.

In my experience, efforts made to be diverse and inclusive have come short in creating an environment where I feel I belong. The value of the knowledge that I bring in my field needs to be affirmed as it pertains to my level of experience as a Black physician in Neurology.

### What's Your Best Advice?

As I put on my MBA hat, my advice to companies and organizations would be, listening is one thing, but it is even more important to recognize and make changes to address the needs of various employees, clients and stakeholders who represent a diverse population. Start with taking a look at your leadership team and begin to diversify and include the talents of those that are not represented. This is a goal that TriHealth supports.

### How Do You Engage with the Community?

I am involved in my church community, which is not uncommon for most leaders in the Black community. However, we need to expand our presence outside of the church, and as such, I am in the process of opening a headache practice in the Community of Cincinnati. Young people need to see that they too can become physician leaders who are willing to be an active part of the community they serve.