



Melissa Pynnonen, MD, MSc

**Professor, Otolaryngology
Michigan Medicine**

Melissa Pynnonen currently serves as the Chief of Rhinology and Skull Base Surgery for the Department of Otolaryngology. She completed her undergraduate studies at Western Michigan University and medical school at the University of Michigan. She later earned a Master of Health Care Research (MSc) at the University of Michigan and is currently enrolled at the Bowling Green State University Schmidthorst College of Business to earn her Master of Organization Development.

Melissa served as Medical Director at the University of Michigan West Ann Arbor Health Center and led this site through the Covid pandemic. During that experience her team established the first ambulatory care Covid triage clinic and simultaneously consolidated 12 primary care clinics into a single site. She is most proud that she kept her team and patients safe. During the first year of the pandemic none of the West Ann Arbor staff contracted Covid from a workplace exposure. What she learned most from that experience is the value of compassion, humility, and authenticity during times of crisis.

Melissa has a passion for life-long learning and has found executive coaching to be transformative in her own career. She strives to be a powerful thinking partner with her clients so they can achieve their greatest potential. In her free time Melissa enjoys travel, learning piano, and celebrating the small joys in life over meals with friends.