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UC San Diego Health Physician Directory

From routine doctor visits to the most advanced procedures, our doctors are here for you. Our specialty care for complex conditions — including cancer, heart disease, neurosurgery, pulmonology and more — is rated among the nation’s best by *U.S. News & World Report*.

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Blood & Marrow Transplant - BMT

A blood and marrow transplant (BMT) is an infusion of adult stem cells — a BMT is used to replace bone marrow that has been destroyed by disease, chemotherapy or radiation. Learn more about blood and marrow transplant at UC San Diego Health.

Dimitrios Tzachanis, MD, PhD
Hematologist/Medical Oncologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cancer, Blood & Marrow Transplant - BMT, Hematology/Blood Diseases
Subspecialty:
Leukemia & Lymphoma
Add'l Languages:
German, Greek

Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6600

Bio:
Dimitrios Tzachanis, MD, PhD, is a board-certified hematologist and medical oncologist who specializes in treating people with cancers of the blood and lymph system, including lymphoma, myeloma, leukemia, myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) and myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN). He is a transplant physician for the joint UC San Diego Health / Sharp HealthCare Blood and Marrow Transplantation (BMT) Program, which provides comprehensive blood and marrow transplant services, including autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplantation.
Cancer - Gynecological Cancers

Arno J. Mundt, MD, FACRO, FASTRO
Radiation Oncologist
Professor and Chair of Radiation Medicine and Applied Sciences

Specialties:
Radiation Oncology, Cancer
Subspecialities:
Urologic Cancer, Gynecological Cancers
Add'l Languages:
French, German, Italian

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6040

Bio:
Arno J. Mundt, MD, is a board-certified radiation oncologist whose expertise is in gynecologic and prostate cancers using a variety of novel treatment modalities, including image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT) and intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT).
Cancer - Leukemia & Lymphoma

Thomas James Kipps, MD, PhD
Hematologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cancer, Hematology/Blood Diseases
Subspecialty:
Leukemia & Lymphoma
Add'l Language:
German

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Thomas J. Kipps, MD, PhD, is a board-certified hematologist with a distinguished career in cancer research. He currently serves as the Deputy Director of Research Operations for UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center. He is the author of more than 200 publications and is the principal investigator on several peer-reviewed grants, including the NCI award for the Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Consortium involving collaboration with eight other cancer centers.

Dimitrios Tzachanis, MD, PhD
Hematologist/Medical Oncologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cancer, Blood & Marrow Transplant - BMT, Hematology/Blood Diseases
Subspecialty:
Leukemia & Lymphoma
Add'l Languages:
German, Greek

Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6600

Bio:
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Cancer - Urologic Cancer

Arno J. Mundt, MD, FACRO, FASTRO
Radiation Oncologist
Professor and Chair of Radiation Medicine and Applied Sciences

Specialties:
Radiation Oncology, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Urologic Cancer, Gynecological Cancers

Add'l Languages:
French, German, Italian

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6040

Bio:
Arno J. Mundt, MD, is a board-certified radiation oncologist whose expertise is in gynecologic and prostate cancers using a variety of novel treatment modalities, including image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT) and intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT).
Cardiology - Electrophysiology

Ulrika Birgersdotter-Green, MD
Director, Pacemaker and ICD Services
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology

Subspecialty:
Electrophysiology

Add'l Languages:
French, German, Swedish

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Ulrika Birgersdotter-Green, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in diagnosing and treating heart rhythm disorders. She directs the Pacemaker and ICD (Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator) Service at UC San Diego Health and leads one of the largest lead extraction programs in the Western United States.
Endocrinology

Endocrinology is the medical specialty focused on diseases of the endocrine system, including diabetes, thyroid and pituitary disorders. Learn more about [endocrinology and diabetes](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health.

![Steven Victor Edelman, MD](image)

**Steven Victor Edelman, MD**  
Clinical Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**  
Endocrinology

**Add'l Languages:**  
German, Spanish

**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-1636

**Bio:**  
*Please note that Dr. Edelman is not a Primary Care Physician*

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**ENT/Head and Neck (Otolaryngology) - General Otolaryngology (ENT)**

![Paul Schalch Lepe, MD, FACS](image)

**Paul Schalch Lepe, MD, FACS**  
Head and Neck Surgeon

**Specialties:**  
ENT/Head and Neck (Otolaryngology), Sleep Medicine

**Subspecialties:**  
General Otolaryngology (ENT), Sinus & Rhinology

**Add'l Languages:**  
German, Spanish

**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8590

**Bio:**  
Paul Schalch Lepe, MD, FACS, is a board-certified otolaryngologist and sleep medicine specialist who specializes in disorders affecting the ears, nose and throat. His expertise is in advanced procedures to diagnose and treat airway obstruction and obstructive sleep apnea, using both surgical and non-surgical approaches.
Paul Schalch Lepe, MD, FACS
Head and Neck Surgeon

Specialties:
ENT/Head and Neck (Otolaryngology), Sleep Medicine

Subspecialties:
General Otolaryngology (ENT), Sinus & Rhinology

Add'l Languages:
German, Spanish

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8590

Bio:
Paul Schalch Lepe, MD, FACS, is a board-certified otolaryngologist and sleep medicine specialist who specializes in disorders affecting the ears, nose and throat. His expertise is in advanced procedures to diagnose and treat airway obstruction and obstructive sleep apnea, using both surgical and non-surgical approaches.
Hematology/Blood Diseases

Hematology (the study of “blood diseases”) is the branch of internal medicine that is concerned with the study of blood, blood-forming organs, and blood diseases. Learn more about hematology/blood diseases at UC San Diego Health.

Thomas James Kipps, MD, PhD
Hematologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cancer, Hematology/Blood Diseases
Subspecialty:
Leukemia & Lymphoma
Add'l Language:
German

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Thomas J. Kipps, MD, PhD, is a board-certified hematologist with a distinguished career in cancer research. He currently serves as the Deputy Director of Research Operations for UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center. He is the author of more than 200 publications and is the principal investigator on several peer-reviewed grants, including the NCI award for the Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Consortium involving collaboration with eight other cancer centers.

Dimitrios Tzachanis, MD, PhD
Hematologist/Medical Oncologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cancer, Blood & Marrow Transplant - BMT, Hematology/Blood Diseases
Subspecialty:
Leukemia & Lymphoma
Add'l Languages:
German, Greek

Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6600

Bio:
Dimitrios Tzachanis, MD, PhD, is a board-certified hematologist and medical oncologist who specializes in treating people with cancers of the blood and lymph system, including lymphoma, myeloma, leukemia, myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) and myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN). He is a transplant physician for the joint UC San Diego Health / Sharp HealthCare Blood and Marrow Transplantation (BMT) Program, which provides comprehensive blood and marrow transplant services, including autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplantation.
HIV/AIDS

AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), which kills or impairs cells of the immune system and progressively destroys the body's ability to fight infections and certain cancers. Learn more about HIV/AIDS care at UC San Diego Health.

Francesca Torriani, MD
Medical Director, Infection Prevention and Clinical Epidemiology
Professor of Clinical Medicine

Specialties:
Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS

Add'l Languages:
French, German, Italian, Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3995

Bio:
Francesca J. Torriani, MD, is a Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). Dr. Torriani received her medical degree in 1985 from the University Medical School in Lausanne, Switzerland. In 1995, Dr. Torriani joined UC San Diego Health after completing a fellowship in infectious diseases.
Infectious Diseases

Infectious diseases are caused by microorganisms that are capable of causing diseases in the human body, such as bacteria, viruses, parasites or fungi; the disease can be spread from one person to another. Learn more about treatment for infectious diseases at UC San Diego Health.

Francesca Torriani, MD
Medical Director, Infection Prevention and Clinical Epidemiology
Professor of Clinical Medicine

Specialties:
Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS

Add'l Languages:
French, German, Italian, Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3995

Bio:
Francesca J. Torriani, MD, is a Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). Dr. Torriani received her medical degree in 1985 from the University Medical School in Lausanne, Switzerland. In 1995, Dr. Torriani joined UC San Diego Health after completing a fellowship in infectious diseases.
Internal Medicine

Internal Medicine specializes in diagnosis, nonsurgical treatment, and preventive medicine of diseases affecting the internal organs. Learn more about internal medicine at UC San Diego Health.

Lisa Wastila, MD
Primary Care Physician
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Primary Care, Internal Medicine

Add'l Language:
German

La Jolla - 8939 Villa La Jolla Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8000

Bio:
Lisa Wastila, MD, is a board-certified internal medicine doctor. She provides primary care for adults, including preventive care and diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.
Nephrology (Kidney) - Apheresis

Joachim H. Ix, MD
Chief, Division of Nephrology-Hypertension
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Nephrology (Kidney)

Subspecialties:
Chronic Kidney Disease, Dialysis, Apheresis

Add'l Language:
German

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6397

Bio:
Joachim Ix, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist who cares for patients with kidney disease, including end-stage renal disease and acute renal failure as a result of underlying conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, lupus, sepsis and glomerulonephritis. He is chief of the Division of Nephrology-Hypertension.
Nephrology (Kidney) - Chronic Kidney Disease

Joachim H. Ix, MD
Chief, Division of Nephrology-Hypertension
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Nephrology (Kidney)

Subspecialties:
Chronic Kidney Disease, Dialysis, Apheresis

Add'l Language:
German

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6397

Bio:
Joachim Ix, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist who cares for patients with kidney disease, including end-stage renal disease and acute renal failure as a result of underlying conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, lupus, sepsis and glomerulonephritis. He is chief of the Division of Nephrology-Hypertension.
Nephrology (Kidney) - Dialysis

Joachim H. Ix, MD
Chief, Division of Nephrology-Hypertension
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Nephrology (Kidney)

Subspecialties:
Chronic Kidney Disease, Dialysis, Apheresis

Add'l Language:
German

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6397

Bio:
Joachim Ix, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist who cares for patients with kidney disease, including end-stage renal disease and acute renal failure as a result of underlying conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, lupus, sepsis and glomerulonephritis. He is chief of the Division of Nephrology-Hypertension.
Neurology - Stroke

Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD
Vascular Neurologist
Director, Stroke Center
Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspeciality:
Stroke
Add'l Language:
German

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist. His expertise includes caring for patients with stroke, cerebrovascular diseases, and those who require neurological critical care. Dr. Hemmen directs the stroke center at UC San Diego Health and was instrumental in establishing the center as the first certified Stroke Center of Excellence in San Diego County.
Gillian Mackay, MBBS, FACOG
Obstetrician/Gynecologist

Specialty:
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Subspecialty:
General Gynecology
Add'l Language:
German

La Jolla - 8910 Villa La Jolla
Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8745

Bio:
Gillian Mackay, MBBS, is a board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist who provides labor and delivery care for both low and high-risk pregnancies, as well as minimally invasive gynecological surgery, adolescent gynecology and contraception and family planning. She also performs office procedures such as hysteroscopy.
Orthopedics - Orthopedic Trauma

Alexandra K. Schwartz, MD
Chief, Orthopedic Trauma
Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Surgery
Subspecialty:
Orthopedic Trauma
Add'l Languages:
German, Spanish

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6312
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200

Bio:
Alexandra Schwartz, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon. She specializes in orthopedic trauma and surgery to treat fractured or broken bones, including clavicle, pelvic, foot, ankle, arm, elbow, knee, and shoulder injuries. Dr. Schwartz also cares for patients with complications from these injuries, such as infections and poor-healing or non-healing bones. As an orthopedic traumatologist, she has expertise working in emergency settings and with people whose injuries were caused by accidents or violence.
Orthopedics - Spine

Douglas Chang, MD, PhD
Chief of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Service
Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine

Subspecialties:
Spine, Sports Medicine

Add'l Language:
German

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (844) 377-7678

Bio:
Douglas Chang, MD, PhD, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who specializes in the non-surgical treatment of back/neck pain and other musculoskeletal injuries.
Orthopedics - Sports Medicine

Douglas Chang, MD, PhD
Chief of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Service
Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine

Subspecialties:
Spine, Sports Medicine

Add'l Language:
German

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (844) 377-7678

Bio:
Douglas Chang, MD, PhD, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who specializes in the non-surgical treatment of back/neck pain and other musculoskeletal injuries.
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

Douglas Chang, MD, PhD
Chief of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Service
Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine

Subspecialties:
Spine, Sports Medicine

Add'l Language:
German

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (844) 377-7678

Bio:
Douglas Chang, MD, PhD, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who specializes in the non-surgical treatment of back/neck pain and other musculoskeletal injuries.
Primary Care

Primary care is the basic level of medical care at which a patient is evaluated and treated by a nurse or physician, and if necessary, is then referred to a medical specialist. Learn more about primary care at UC San Diego Health.

Lisa Wastila, MD
Primary Care Physician
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Primary Care, Internal Medicine

Add'l Language:
German

La Jolla - 8939 Villa La Jolla Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8000

Bio:
Lisa Wastila, MD, is a board-certified internal medicine doctor. She provides primary care for adults, including preventive care and diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.
Radiation Oncology

Radiation oncology is the medical specialty that uses radiation to treat cancer. Learn more about radiation oncology at UC San Diego Health.

Arno J. Mundt, MD, FACRO, FASTRO
Radiation Oncologist
Professor and Chair of Radiation Medicine and Applied Sciences

Specialties:
Radiation Oncology, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Urologic Cancer, Gynecological Cancers

Add'l Languages:
French, German, Italian

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6040

Bio:
Arno J. Mundt, MD, is a board-certified radiation oncologist whose expertise is in gynecologic and prostate cancers using a variety of novel treatment modalities, including image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT) and intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT).
Sleep Medicine

Sleep medicine is the subspecialty of internal medicine that studies and manages poor sleep hygiene. Learn more about sleep medicine at UC San Diego Health.

Paul Schalch Lepe, MD, FACS
Head and Neck Surgeon

Specialties:
ENT/Head and Neck (Otolaryngology), Sleep Medicine

Subspecialties:
General Otolaryngology (ENT), Sinus & Rhinology

Add'l Languages:
German, Spanish

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8590

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Paul Schalch Lepe, MD, FACS, is a board-certified otolaryngologist and sleep medicine specialist who specializes in disorders affecting the ears, nose and throat. His expertise is in advanced procedures to diagnose and treat airway obstruction and obstructive sleep apnea, using both surgical and non-surgical approaches.
Sports Medicine

Sports medicine is the branch of medicine concerned with the treatment of injuries or illnesses from athletic activities. Learn more about [sports medicine](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health.

![Douglas Chang, MD, PhD](image)

**Douglas Chang, MD, PhD**  
Chief of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Service  
Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Orthopedics, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine

**Subspecialties:**  
Spine, Sports Medicine

**Add'l Language:**  
German

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices North**  
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion  
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

**Contact:**

- New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
- Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200
- Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (844) 377-7678

**Bio:**

Douglas Chang, MD, PhD, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who specializes in the non-surgical treatment of back/neck pain and other musculoskeletal injuries.
Stroke Care

Stroke care is the medical treatment for a stroke — when the blood supply to part of your brain is interrupted or severely reduced, resulting in the sudden death of brain cells. Learn more about stroke care at UC San Diego Health.

Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD
Vascular Neurologist
Director, Stroke Center
Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspecialty:
Stroke
Add'l Language:
German

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist. His expertise includes caring for patients with stroke, cerebrovascular diseases, and those who require neurological critical care. Dr. Hemmen directs the stroke center at UC San Diego Health and was instrumental in establishing the center as the first certified Stroke Center of Excellence in San Diego County.
Surgery

The branch of medicine that uses surgery in the treatment of disease, injury or disorders. Learn more about surgery at UC San Diego Health.

Alexandra K. Schwartz, MD
Chief, Orthopedic Trauma
Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Surgery

Subspecialty:
Orthopedic Trauma

Add'l Languages:
German, Spanish

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6312
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200

Bio:
Alexandra Schwartz, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon. She specializes in orthopedic trauma and surgery to treat fractured or broken bones, including clavicle, pelvic, foot, ankle, arm, elbow, knee, and shoulder injuries. Dr. Schwartz also cares for patients with complications from these injuries, such as infections and poor-healing or non-healing bones. As an orthopedic traumatologist, she has expertise working in emergency settings and with people whose injuries were caused by accidents or violence.
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