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*.

**For Patients**

**Make an Appointment**
Whether you need to be seen for an urgent condition today or are looking for a new primary care physician or specialty care provider, we can help. Call **800-926-8273** between 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

[health.ucsd.edu/request_appt](http://health.ucsd.edu/request_appt)

**Find a Provider**
Search by name, specialty, location or keyword to find the right provider for you.

[providers.ucsd.edu](http://providers.ucsd.edu)

**Physician Access Services**

**Refer a Patient or Request Consultation**
Call Physician Access Services at **855-543-0555** from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Transfer an Inpatient**
For hospital-to-hospital transfers, call **619-543-5709** (24-hour service) for instructions.
Locations

La Jolla
La Jolla Emergency
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
9434 Medical Center Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

La Jolla Urgent Care
8910 Villa La Jolla Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Orthopedics Urgent Care
Sports Medicine
4520 Executive Drive, Suite Plaza 1
San Diego, CA 92121

4510 and 4520 Executive Drive
San Diego, CA 92121

8910 Villa La Jolla Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

8899 and 8929 University Center
Lane
San Diego, CA 92122

8939 Villa La Jolla Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

9333 Genesee Avenue
San Diego, CA 92121

9850 Villa La Jolla Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

9350 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Shiley Eye Institute
9415 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
9434 Medical Center Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Moores Cancer Center
3855 Health Sciences Drive
La Jolla, CA 92093

Jacobs Medical Center
9300 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
9400 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Perlman Medical Offices
9350 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Hillcrest

Hillcrest Emergency
UC San Diego Medical Center
200 West Arbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92103

4th and Lewis Medical Offices
330 Lewis Street
San Diego, CA 92103

Medical Offices North
200 West Arbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92103

Medical Offices South
4168 Front Street
San Diego, CA 92103

UC San Diego Medical Center
200 West Arbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92103

Rancho Bernardo

Includes Rancho Bernardo Urgent Care
16950 Via Tazon
San Diego, CA 92127

Encinitas
Includes Encinitas Express Care
(Suite 110)
1200 Garden View Road
Encinitas, CA 92024

477 North El Camino Real
Encinitas, CA 92024

College Area
6719 Alvarado Road, Suite 302
San Diego, CA 92120

Downtown
Downtown Express Care
203 West F Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Vista
910 Sycamore Avenue
Vista, CA 92081

Sorrento Valley
4910 Directors Place
San Diego, CA 92121

Scripps Ranch
9909 Mira Mesa Blvd, Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92131

Kearny Mesa
7910 Frost Street
San Diego, CA 92123

Chula Vista
959 Lane Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91914

Temecula
31720 Temecula Parkway, Suite 100
Temecula, CA 92592
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Anesthesiology

Anesthesiology is the medical specialty that involves the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care for patients in the administration of medications to control pain and support life functions during surgery. Learn more about anesthesiology services at UC San Diego Health System.

Sidney K. Merritt, MD
Associate Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology

**Specialty:**
Anesthesiology

**Add'l Language:**
French

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273

**Bio:**
Associate Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology at the University of California San Diego (2001 - present)
Cancer

Cancer is an abnormal growth of cells which creates tumors, abnormal growths of tissue, and clusters of cells that are capable of growing and dividing uncontrollably — oncology is the branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Learn more about cancer at UC San Diego Health.

Bard Cosman, MD, FACS, FASCRS
Surgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Colon and Rectal Surgery, Surgery, Cancer, HIV/AIDS

Subspecialty:
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery

Add'l Language:
French

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Bard Cosman, MD, FACS, FASCRS, is a board-certified colon and rectal surgeon who specializes in anorectal surgery. He is an expert in treating chronic inflammatory lesions such as anal fistula, pilonidal sinus, and hidradenitis suppurative. He also has a special interest in anal dysplasia and cancer, including HIV-related cases.
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.
Cardiology - General Cardiology

Bruno Cotter, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
General Cardiology
Add'l Languages:
French, German

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5743

Bio:
UC San Diego Health Links
Colon and Rectal Surgery

Colon and Rectal surgery is the medical specialty dealing with surgeries for disorders of the rectum, anus, and colon. Learn more about colon and rectal surgery at UC San Diego Health System.

Bard Cosman, MD, FACS, FASCRS
Surgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Colon and Rectal Surgery, Surgery, Cancer, HIV/AIDS
Subspecialty:
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery
Add'l Language:
French

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Bard Cosman, MD, FACS, FASCRS, is a board-certified colon and rectal surgeon who specializes in anorectal surgery. He is an expert in treating chronic inflammatory lesions such as anal fistula, pilonidal sinus, and hidradenitis suppurative. He also has a special interest in anal dysplasia and cancer, including HIV-related cases.
Concierge Medicine

Concierge medicine is a relationship between a patient and a physician in which the patient pays an annual fee or retainer in exchange for enhanced, personalized medical care. Learn more about concierge medicine at UC San Diego Health System.

Alma Harb, MD
Primary Care Physician for Concierge Medicine Patients

Specialties:
Primary Care, Internal Medicine, Concierge Medicine

Add'l Languages:
Arabic, French, Spanish

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5000

Bio:
Alma Harb, 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.

Emergency Medicine

Emergency Medicine is the medical specialty dealing with the immediate treatment of patients whose condition is critical, requiring immediate action. Learn more about emergency medicine at UC San Diego Health System.

Sean-Xavier Neath, MD, PhD
Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Emergency Medicine

Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
La Jolla - 8910 Villa La Jolla
Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Family Medicine

Family Medicine provides health care for all ages, genders and diseases — it is focused on knowledge of the patient in the context of family and community — stressing disease prevention and health promotion. Learn more about family medicine at UC San Diego Health System.

Suraj A. Achar, MD, FAAFP
Primary Care Physician and Sports Medicine Specialist
Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine, Sports Medicine

Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish

La Jolla - 9333 Genesee Avenue
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8600
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (844) 377-7678

Bio:
Suraj A. Achar, MD, is a board-certified family medicine doctor who specializes in sports medicine. His expertise includes diagnosing, treating, and preventing injuries associated with athletics. He is highly experienced in ultrasound-guided diagnostics and procedures. Dr. Achar also provides primary care for patients of all ages, including preventive care and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.

Martin Luther Kabongo, MD, PhD
Primary Care Physician
Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine

Add'l Languages:
French, Lingala, Spanish, Swahili, Tshiluba

Scripps Ranch - 9909 Mira Mesa Blvd

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7750

Bio:
Martin Luther Kabongo, MD, is a board-certified family medicine doctor. He provides primary care for patients of all ages, including preventive care and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.

Akbar Rahman, MD, MPH
Primary Care Physician
Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine

Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish, Swahili

La Jolla - 9333 Genesee Avenue

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8600

Bio:
Akbar Rahman, MD, MPH, is a board-certified family physician who sees patients of all ages - children, adolescents, and adults. From routine check-ups for children, to well-woman care, to the care of more medically complex patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes and hypertension, he believes in taking a thorough, patient-centered approach to those under his care.
Rebecca L Rosen, MD
Primary Care Physician

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine

Add'l Languages:
French, Italian, Spanish

La Jolla - 9333 Genesee Avenue

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8600

Bio:
Rebecca L. Rosen, MD, is a board-certified family medicine doctor. She provides primary care for patients of all ages, including preventive care and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.
Gastroenterology

Gastroenterology is the branch of medicine concerned with the structure, functions, diseases and pathology of the stomach and the intestines — including digestive diseases. Learn more about gastroenterology at UC San Diego Health System.

Michel Henry Mendler, MD
Gastroenterologist and Transplant Hepatologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Transplantation, Hepatology (Liver)

Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation

Add'l Language:
French

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Murrieta - California Oaks Rd

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-2347
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr. (Liver Transplantation): (858) 657-7728
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices (Gastroenterology): (619) 543-2347
Direct Clinic Line - Murrieta: (951) 303-0734

Bio:
Michel Mendler, MD, is a gastroenterologist and transplant hepatologist. He has expertise in performing lower GI endoscopies and percutaneous liver biopsies to diagnose and treat patients with digestive and liver diseases including liver cancer, alcoholic liver disease and hepatitis.
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.

Annette Von Drygalski, MD, PharmD
Director, Hemophilia and Thrombosis Treatment Center
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Hematology/Blood Diseases
Add'l Languages:
French, German

La Jolla - 8929 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5947

Bio:
Annette von Drygalski, MD, PharmD, is a board-certified hematologist who cares for people with diseases of the blood, spleen and lymph. She directs the Hemophilia and Thrombosis Treatment Center at UC San Diego Health. In this role, Dr. von Drygalski developed translational and clinical research interests addressing the evolving needs of aging patients with hemophilia, such as cardiovascular and joint disease.
Hepatology (Liver)

Hepatology is a medical specialty that incorporates the study of the liver, gallbladder, biliary tract, and pancreas as well as management of their disorders. Learn more about hepatology at UC San Diego Health System.

Michel Henry Mendler, MD
Gastroenterologist and Transplant Hepatologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Transplantation, Hepatology (Liver)

Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation

Add'l Language:
French

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Murrieta - California Oaks Rd

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-2347
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr. (Liver Transplantation): (858) 657-7728
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices (Gastroenterology): (619) 543-2347
Direct Clinic Line - Murrieta: (951) 303-0734

Bio:
Michel Mendler, MD, is a gastroenterologist and transplant hepatologist. He has expertise in performing lower GI endoscopies and percutaneous liver biopsies to diagnose and treat patients with digestive and liver diseases including liver cancer, alcoholic liver disease and hepatitis.
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.

Bard Cosman, MD, FACS, FASCRS
Surgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Colon and Rectal Surgery, Surgery, Cancer, HIV/AIDS
Subspecialty:
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery
Add'l Language:
French

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Bard Cosman, MD, FACS, FASCRS, is a board-certified colon and rectal surgeon who specializes in anorectal surgery. He is an expert in treating chronic inflammatory lesions such as anal fistula, pilonidal sinus, and hidradenitis suppurative. He also has a special interest in anal dysplasia and cancer, including HIV-related cases.

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 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](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health System.

Alma Harb, MD
Primary Care Physician for Concierge Medicine Patients

**Specialties:**
Primary Care, Internal Medicine, Concierge Medicine

**Add'l Languages:**
Arabic, French, Spanish

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5000

**Bio:**
Alma Harb, 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.
Neurology

Neurology is the branch of medicine that is concerned with the study and treatment of disorders of the nervous system. Learn more about neurology at UC San Diego Health System.

Erik S. Viirre, MD, PHD
Professor (Adjunct)

Specialty:
Neurology

Add'l Language:
French

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273

Bio:
Dr. Viirre specializes in neurotology (diagnosis and outpatient treatment of vertigo, balance disorders, and tinnitus). He has been with the UC San Diego Department of Neurosciences since 2006 and the Department of Surgery, Division of Head and Neck Surgery since 1998. A member of numerous scientific boards, Dr. Viirre is also an Research Professor in the UC San Diego Department of Cognitive Science and a research associate of the US Navy Naval Medical Center San Diego.
Gabriel Léger, MD  
Neurologist  

Specialty:  
Neurology  
Subspecialty:  
Dementia  
Add'l Language:  
French  

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive  

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8540  

Bio:  
Gabriel Léger, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders. He has expertise in the diagnosis and treatment of atypical or focal dementias, including frontotemporal dementia (FTD), primary progressive aphasia, posterior cortical atrophy, and dementia with Lewy bodies including Parkinson’s disease dementia.
Neurology - Headache

Suzan Khoromi, MD
Neurologist

Specialty:
Neurology

Subspecialty:
Headache

Add'l Languages:
French, Persian, Spanish

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-3500
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-8940

Bio:
Suzan Khoromi, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in treating migraines, headaches and neurologic pain conditions.
Obstetrics & Gynecology

Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN) are the two surgical-medical specialties concerned with the reproductive organs in women. Learn more about OB/GYN at UC San Diego Health System.

Sierra Washington, MD, FACOG
Obstetrician/Gynecologist
Associate Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences

Specialty:
Obstetrics & Gynecology

Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish

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

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 249-5900
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-7878

Bio:
Sierra Washington, MD, is a board-certified obstetrician and gynecologist who provides labor and delivery care at UC San Diego Health. Dr. Washington sees patients at the Hillcrest campus for prenatal care and family planning services. She aims to provide a holistic approach to patient care and a natural birthing experience for parents and their newborns within Hillcrest and Jacobs Medical Center’s state-of-the-art obstetrical environment.
Palliative Care

Heidi Yeung, MD
Palliative Care Specialist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Palliative Care

Add'l Languages:
French, Mandarin

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-9061

Bio:
Heidi Yeung, MD, is a board-certified hospice and palliative care specialist who manages pain and other symptoms related to disease or its treatment. She works with a multidisciplinary team to help individualize care for patients and their families.
Leah D. Kern, MD, MPH
Pediatrician
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Specialties:
Pediatrics, Primary Care

Subspecialties:
Travel Medicine, General Pediatrics

Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish

Kearny Mesa - Frost Street

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 496-4800

Bio:
Leah D. Kern, MD, MPH, is a board-certified pediatrician who provides primary care for children of all ages. She leads the pediatric travel medicine program, which provides medical advice and vaccinations for children traveling internationally.
Pediatrics - Travel Medicine

Leah D. Kern, MD, MPH
Pediatrician
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Specialties:
Pediatrics, Primary Care

Subspecialties:
Travel Medicine, General Pediatrics

Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish

Kearny Mesa - Frost Street

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 496-4800

Bio:
Leah D. Kern, MD, MPH, is a board-certified pediatrician who provides primary care for children of all ages. She leads the pediatric travel medicine program, which provides medical advice and vaccinations for children traveling internationally.
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 System.

Suraj A. Achar, MD, FAAFP
Primary Care Physician and Sports Medicine Specialist
Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine, Sports Medicine
Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish

La Jolla - 9333 Genesee Avenue
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8600
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (844) 377-7678

Bio:
Suraj A. Achar, MD, is a board-certified family medicine doctor who specializes in sports medicine. His expertise includes diagnosing, treating, and preventing injuries associated with athletics. He is highly experienced in ultrasound-guided diagnostics and procedures. Dr. Achar also provides primary care for patients of all ages, including preventive care and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.

Martin Luther Kabongo, MD, PhD
Primary Care Physician
Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine
Add'l Languages:
French, Lingala, Spanish, Swahili, Tshiluba

Scripps Ranch - 9909 Mira Mesa Blvd

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7750

Bio:
Martin Luther Kabongo, MD, is a board-certified family medicine doctor. He provides primary care for patients of all ages, including preventive care and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.

Alma Harb, MD
Primary Care Physician for Concierge Medicine Patients

Specialties:
Primary Care, Internal Medicine, Concierge Medicine
Add'l Languages:
Arabic, French, Spanish

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5000

Bio:
Alma Harb, 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.

Leah D. Kern, MD, MPH
Pediatrician
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Specialties:
Pediatrics, Primary Care
Subspecialties:
Travel Medicine, General Pediatrics
Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish

Kearny Mesa - Frost Street

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 496-4800

Bio:
Leah D. Kern, MD, MPH, is a board-certified pediatrician who provides primary care for children of all ages. She leads the pediatric travel medicine program, which provides medical advice and vaccinations for children traveling internationally.
Primary Care (cont.)

Akbar Rahman, MD, MPH
Primary Care Physician
Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine

Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish, Swahili

La Jolla - 9333 Genesee Avenue

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8600

Bio:
Akbar Rahman, MD, MPH, is a board-certified family physician who sees patients of all ages - children, adolescents, and adults. From routine check-ups for children, to well-woman care, to the care of more medically complex patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes and hypertension, he believes in taking a thorough, patient-centered approach to those under his care.

Rebecca L Rosen, MD
Primary Care Physician

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine

Add'l Languages:
French, Italian, Spanish

La Jolla - 9333 Genesee Avenue

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8600

Bio:
Rebecca L. Rosen, MD, is a board-certified family medicine doctor. She provides primary care for patients of all ages, including preventive care and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.
Pulmonology (Lung) - Asthma

Ni-Cheng Liang, MD
Pulmonologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Pulmonology (Lung)

**Subspecialties:**
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Asthma

**Add'l Languages:**
French, Mandarin

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273

**Bio:**
Ni-Cheng Liang, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist. She provides care for a variety of acute and chronic respiratory conditions, with a special focus on those with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
Pulmonology (Lung) - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Ni-Cheng Liang, MD
Pulmonologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Pulmonology (Lung)

**Subspecialties:**
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Asthma

**Add'l Languages:**
French, Mandarin

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273

**Bio:**
Ni-Cheng Liang, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist. She provides care for a variety of acute and chronic respiratory conditions, with a special focus on those with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

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Xavier Soler, MD, PhD
Pulmonologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Pulmonology (Lung)

**Subspecialty:**
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

**Add'l Languages:**
Catalan, French, Spanish

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273

**Bio:**
Xavier Soler, MD, PhD, specializes in pulmonology and sleep medicine and is the medical director of the pulmonary rehabilitation program and associate director of the Clinical Trials & Airway Research Center. He specializes in the diagnosis, treatment and management of chronic lung diseases, including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and asthma.
Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD
Pulmonologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Pulmonology (Lung)

**Subspecialties:**
Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Critical Care

**Add'l Languages:**
French, Greek

**La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive**
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7100

**Bio:**
Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist and intensive care specialist. His clinical interests include pulmonary vascular disease, with a focus in pulmonary arterial hypertension, chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension and critical care medicine.
Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD
Pulmonologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Pulmonology (Lung)

**Subspecialties:**
Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Critical Care

**Add'l Languages:**
French, Greek

**La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive**
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7100

**Bio:**
Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist and intensive care specialist. His clinical interests include pulmonary vascular disease, with a focus in pulmonary arterial hypertension, chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension and critical care medicine.
Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD
Pulmonologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Pulmonology (Lung)

**Subspecialties:**
Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Critical Care

**Add'l Languages:**
French, Greek

**La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive**
**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7100

**Bio:**
Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist and intensive care specialist. His clinical interests include pulmonary vascular disease, with a focus in pulmonary arterial hypertension, chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension and critical care medicine.
Radiology

Radiology is the branch of medicine specializing in the use of imaging technologies such as x-ray and radiation to diagnose and treat diseases. Learn more about radiology at UC San Diego Health System.

Giovanna Casola, MD
Diagnostic Radiologist
Clinical Professor of Radiology

Specialty:
Radiology
Add'l Languages:
French, Italian, Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3405

Bio:
Dr. Casola is passionate about excellent clinical care and teaching the next generation of physicians. She has an interest in international education and has sponsored many visiting scholars from all over the world.

Amol A. Patil, MD
Radiologist

Specialty:
Radiology
Add'l Languages:
French, Hindi

Hillcrest - 4th & Lewis Medical Offices
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Radiology - Musculoskeletal Imaging

Christine B. Chung, MD
Associate Professor in Residence

**Specialty:**
Radiology

**Subspecialty:**
Musculoskeletal Imaging

**Add'l Language:**
French

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3405

**Bio:**
“As an academic radiologist, I am truly dedicated to the triumvarate of research, teaching and clinical service. My time at UC San Diego Health has afforded me the opportunity to have ample experience in each. I am fortunate to be a part of the best clinical musculoskeletal radiology department in the world. In addition, as the director of the Musculoskeletal Imaging Research Group, I have had the opportunity to collaborate with world class physicists, pathologists, orthopedic surgeons and bioengineers. Our work focuses on cartilage imaging and tissue characterization with MR imaging.”
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 System.

Lisa Shives, MD
Sleep Medicine Specialist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Sleep Medicine
Add'l Languages:
French, German

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (844) 757-5337

Bio:
Lisa Shives, MD, is a board-certified sleep medicine doctor. She has extensive experience in the treatment of all sleep related disorders including sleep apnea, insomnia, narcolepsy, restless legs syndrome and circadian rhythm disorders.
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 System.

![Suraj A. Achar, MD, FAAFP](image)

**Suraj A. Achar, MD, FAAFP**  
Primary Care Physician and Sports Medicine Specialist  
Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health

**Specialties:**  
Primary Care, Family Medicine, Sports Medicine  
**Add'l Languages:**  
French, Spanish

**La Jolla - 9333 Genesee Avenue**  
**La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8600  
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (844) 377-7678

**Bio:**  
Suraj A. Achar, MD, is a board-certified family medicine doctor who specializes in sports medicine. His expertise includes diagnosing, treating, and preventing injuries associated with athletics. He is highly experienced in ultrasound-guided diagnostics and procedures. Dr. Achar also provides primary care for patients of all ages, including preventive care and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.
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 System.

Yahir A. Santiago-Lastra, MD
Urologist/Urogynecologist
Assistant Professor of Urology

Specialties:
Urology, Surgery
Subspecialties:
Incontinence, Urogynecology

Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Urology: (858) 657-7576
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-8737

Bio:
Yahir Santiago-Lastra, MD, is a urologist who specializes in diagnosing and treating a wide range of urogenital conditions in both men and women, including those caused by neurologic disorders. These include pelvic organ prolapse, urinary incontinence, voiding dysfunction, overactive bladder, neurogenic bladder, ureteral stricture, and post-prostatectomy incontinence, among other pelvic floor disorders. Her other areas of expertise include procedures such as neuromodulation for overactive bladder, bladder augmentation and urinary diversion. She also works with patients with congenital urologic malformations who are transitioning from pediatric to adult care.
Bard Cosman, MD, FACS, FASCRS
Surgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Colon and Rectal Surgery, Surgery, Cancer, HIV/AIDS

Subspecialty:
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery

Add'l Language:
French

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Bard Cosman, MD, FACS, FASCRS, is a board-certified colon and rectal surgeon who specializes in anorectal surgery. He is an expert in treating chronic inflammatory lesions such as anal fistula, pilonidal sinus, and hidradenitis suppurative. He also has a special interest in anal dysplasia and cancer, including HIV-related cases.
Transplantation - Liver Transplantation

Michel Henry Mendler, MD
Gastroenterologist and Transplant Hepatologist
Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**
Gastroenterology, Transplantation, Hepatology (Liver)

**Subspeciality:**
Liver Transplantation

**Add'l Language:**
French

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-2347
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr. (Liver Transplantation): (858) 657-7728
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices (Gastroenterology): (619) 543-2347
Direct Clinic Line - Murrieta: (951) 303-0734

**Bio:**
Michel Mendler, MD, is a gastroenterologist and transplant hepatologist. He has expertise in performing lower GI endoscopies and percutaneous liver biopsies to diagnose and treat patients with digestive and liver diseases including liver cancer, alcoholic liver disease and hepatitis.
Urology - Incontinence

Yahir A. Santiago-Lastra, MD
Urologist/Urogynecologist
Assistant Professor of Urology

Specialties:
Urology, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Incontinence, Urogynecology

Additional Languages:
French, Spanish

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Urology: (858) 657-7876
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-8737

Bio:
Yahir Santiago-Lastra, MD, is a urologist who specializes in diagnosing and treating a wide range of urogenital conditions in both men and women, including those caused by neurologic disorders. These include pelvic organ prolapse, urinary incontinence, voiding dysfunction, overactive bladder, neurogenic bladder, ureteral stricture, and post-prostatectomy incontinence, among other pelvic floor disorders. Her other areas of expertise include procedures such as neuromodulation for overactive bladder, bladder augmentation and urinary diversion. She also works with patients with congenital urologic malformations who are transitioning from pediatric to adult care.
Yahir A. Santiago-Lastra, MD
Urologist/Urogynecologist
Assistant Professor of Urology

Specialties:
Urology, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Incontinence, Urogynecology

Add'l Languages:
French, Spanish

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Urology: (858) 657-7878
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-8737

Bio:
Yahir Santiago-Lastra, MD, is a urologist who specializes in diagnosing and
treating a wide range of urogenital conditions in both men and women,
including those caused by neurologic disorders. These include pelvic organ
prolapse, urinary incontinence, voiding dysfunction, overactive bladder,
neurogenic bladder, ureteral stricture, and post-prostatectomy incontinence,
among other pelvic floor disorders. Her other areas of expertise include
procedures such as neuromodulation for overactive bladder, bladder
augmentation and urinary diversion. She also works with patients with
congenital urologic malformations who are transitioning from pediatric to
adult care.
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