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.
# Table of Contents

**Cardiology**
- Electrophysiology ........................................................................................................................................ 1
- General Cardiology ....................................................................................................................................... i
- Heart Failure .................................................................................................................................................. 2
- Interventional Cardiology ........................................................................................................................... i

**Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery**
- Adult Congenital Heart Defects .................................................................................................................. i
- Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) ..................................................................................................... i

**Family Medicine**
- Integrative & Holistic Medicine .................................................................................................................. i

**Gastroenterology**
- Celiac Disease .............................................................................................................................................. i
- General Gastroenterology ............................................................................................................................. i
- GI Cancer ....................................................................................................................................................... i
- GI Motility ...................................................................................................................................................... i
- Inflammatory Bowel Diseases ....................................................................................................................... i
- Interventional Endoscopy / Pancreas & Bile Ducts ....................................................................................... i

**Hepatology (Liver)** ....................................................................................................................................... 6

**Primary Care** ............................................................................................................................................... 7

**Surgery**
- Critical Care .................................................................................................................................................. i
- General and Gastrointestinal Surgery .......................................................................................................... i
- Hepatobiliary Surgery .................................................................................................................................... i
- Minimally Invasive Surgery ........................................................................................................................... i
- Surgical Oncology ......................................................................................................................................... i
- Thyroid and Parathyroid Surgery ................................................................................................................ i
- Trauma ......................................................................................................................................................... i

**Transplantation**
- Heart Transplantation .................................................................................................................................. i
- Kidney Transplantation .................................................................................................................................. i
- Liver Transplantation ....................................................................................................................................... 9
- Lung Transplantation ...................................................................................................................................... i
- Pancreas Transplantation ............................................................................................................................... i

**Index** ......................................................................................................................................................... 10
Frederick (Fred) Han, MD
Cardiac Electrophysiologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty: Cardiology
Subspecialty: Electrophysiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Murrieta - California Oaks Rd

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

Bio:
Frederick (Fred) Han, MD, is board-certified cardiologist who subspecializes in cardiac electrophysiology. He takes care of patients with all types of fast (tachycardia), slow (bradycardia), and irregular heart rhythm disorders, including both atrial and ventricular arrhythmias.
Cardiology - Heart Failure

Hao (Howie) Tran, MD
Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Cardiology

**Subspecialty:**
Heart Failure

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Murrieta - California Oaks Rd

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

**Bio:**
Howie Tran, MD, is board-certified cardiologist who specializes in treating patients with end-stage or advanced heart failure. He cares for patients who require heart transplants and mechanical circulatory support devices, including ventricular assist devices (VADs) and percutaneous ventricular assist devices (PVADs). Dr. Tran is also experienced in right heart-catheterization with heart tissue biopsies.

Nicholas Wettersten, MD
Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Cardiology

**Subspecialty:**
Heart Failure

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**
Murrieta - California Oaks Rd
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

**Bio:**
Nicholas Wettersten, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who treats patients with advanced heart failure.
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery

Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery specializes in operations to the heart, chest or both — generally includes treatment for heart and lung diseases and conditions. Learn more about [cardiothoracic (heart and lung) surgery](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health.

Steven Howe, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery

**Murrieta - California Oaks Rd**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (951) 303-0734

**Bio:**
Steven Howe, MD, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in treating a wide range of cardiovascular diseases, including aortic valve disease, coronary artery disease, and other peripheral and major vascular conditions. Dr. Howe performs adult cardiothoracic surgery, including peripheral and major vascular surgery, thoracic and abdominal endovascular surgery and thoracic trauma surgery.
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.

Belen S. Clark, MD
Primary Care Physician

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine

Add'l Language:
Tagalog

Vista - 1954 Via Centre

Contact:
Direct Clinic Line: (760) 529-9700

Bio:
Belen S. Clark, MD, is a board-certified physician providing primary care at Optimas Family Medicine, an independent practice in Vista, CA. She is a member of the UC San Diego Health Physician Network.
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.

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. In addition to colonoscopies, he has expertise in performing upper and 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.
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.

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. In addition to colonoscopies, he has expertise in performing upper and 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.
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.

Belen S. Clark, MD
Primary Care Physician

Affiliated Provider

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine

Add'l Language:
Tagalog

Vista - 1954 Via Centre

Contact:
Direct Clinic Line: (760) 529-9700

Bio:
Belen S. Clark, MD, is a board-certified physician providing primary care at Optimas Family Medicine, an independent practice in Vista, CA. She is a member of the UC San Diego Health Physician Network.
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.

Steven Howe, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery

Murrieta - California Oaks Rd

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (951) 303-0734

Bio:
Steven Howe, MD, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in treating a wide range of cardiovascular diseases, including aortic valve disease, coronary artery disease, and other peripheral and major vascular conditions. Dr. Howe performs adult cardiothoracic surgery, including peripheral and major vascular surgery, thoracic and abdominal endovascular surgery and thoracic trauma surgery.
Transplantation - Liver Transplantation

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. In addition to colonoscopies, he has expertise in performing upper and 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.
### Index

- **C**
  - Clark, Belen S. ........................................ 4, 7

- **H**
  - Han, Frederick (Fred) .................................... 1

- **M**
  - Mendler, Michel Henry ................................. 5, 6, 9

- **T**
  - Tran, Hao (Howie) ...................................... 2

- **W**
  - Wettersten, Nicholas .................................... 2