UC San Diego Health Physician Directory

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Orthopedics

Orthopedics is the branch of medicine specializing in the treatment of injuries or disorders of the skeletal system including bones, muscles, joints and ligaments. Learn more about orthopedics at UC San Diego Health.

Frank E. Chiarappa, MD
Orthopedic Oncologist
Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Cancer
Subspecialty:
Sarcoma (Bone and Soft Tissue)

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

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion: (858) 657-8200
Direct Clinic Line: (866) 773-2703

Bio:
Frank Chiarappa, MD, is an orthopedic oncologist who treats children and adults with cancerous and non-cancerous musculoskeletal tumors. This includes soft tissue sarcoma and primary bone tumors such as osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Ewing's sarcoma and giant cell tumors. He also treats patients with cancer that has spread to the bone from other primary sites such as the breast, lung, kidney or blood.

James H. Flint, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Cancer
Subspecialty:
Sarcoma (Bone and Soft Tissue)

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
James H. Flint, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon who specializes in treating benign and malignant soft-tissue and bone tumors, including sarcoma. He treats adults and young adults over the age of 15.

James N. Hamilton, MS, PA-C
Physician Assistant

Specialty:
Orthopedics

Encinitas - Garden View Road
Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
James Hamilton, MS, is a certified physician assistant (PA-C) who cares for people with orthopedic injuries and conditions, including those with arthritis of the hip and knee and people with failed hip and knee replacements. He assists in performing a variety of procedures, including hip replacement, hip resurfacing, total and partial knee replacement, and revision arthroplasty of the hip and knee. Mr. Hamilton also works with patients to develop personalized treatment plans that fulfill their physical activity and lifestyle goals.
Orthopedics (cont.)

Paymaneh (Pam) Sabet, DPM
Podiatrist and Wound Care Specialist

Specialties:
Podiatry, Orthopedics

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5969

Bio:
Pam Sabet, DPM, is a podiatrist who specializes in foot and ankle surgery and wound care. Podiatrists, also referred to as foot doctors or podiatric physicians, are specialists who diagnose and treat all conditions of the feet, ankles and legs. Their care also focuses on how the health of these structures impact the rest of the body. Dr. Sabet’s expertise includes treating foot and ankle diseases and their causes, reconstructive foot and ankle surgery, and wound care for diabetic foot ulcers.

Orthopedics - Foot & Ankle

David J. Dalstrom, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Sports Medicine
Subspecialties:
Foot & Ankle, Orthopedic Trauma

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
David Dalstrom, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon who specializes in treating traumatic injuries, degenerative conditions and sports injuries of the foot and ankle.
Orthopedics - Hand & Upper Extremity

Reid Allen Abrams, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Chief of Hand and Microvascular Surgery
Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery

**Specialties:**
Orthopedics, Sports Medicine

**Subspecialties:**
Hand & Upper Extremity, Sports Medicine

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200

**Bio:**
Reid Abrams, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic and hand surgeon. He is chief of Hand and Microvascular Surgery and chairman of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. Dr. Abrams' expertise includes treating severe upper limb trauma; nerve injuries; tendon injuries; arthritis of the elbow wrist and hand; carpal tunnel syndrome; Dupuytren's contracture; as well as fractures and sports injuries of the elbow, forearm, wrist and hand.

Matthew Meunier, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

**Specialties:**
Orthopedics, Sports Medicine

**Subspecialties:**
Sports Medicine, Hand & Upper Extremity

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200

**Bio:**
Matthew Meunier, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon who specializes in hand, upper extremity and microvascular surgery to treat a variety of conditions, including fractures and dislocations, shoulder injuries, chronic wrist pain, and congenital hand disorders. He is one of the region’s top hand injury experts and an associate team physician for the San Diego Padres. He was a consultant physician for the San Diego Chargers.
Gregory D. Middleton, MD
Rheumatologist
Professor of Medicine and Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Rheumatology, Orthopedics

Subspecialty:
Hand & Upper Extremity

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Encinitas - Garden View Road
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
Gregory D. Middleton, MD, is a board-certified rheumatologist who specializes in the nonsurgical care of patients with joint and muscle pain, particularly those with rheumatic disorders such as osteoarthritis. He takes a comprehensive approach to treating arthritis, pain and autoimmune diseases, and strives to help patients maintain a satisfying and active lifestyle.
Orthopedics - Joint

Scott Taber Ball, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialty:
Orthopedics

Subspecialty:
Joint

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Encinitas - Garden View Road
Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
Scott Ball, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon who specializes in joint replacement surgery for both the hip and knee, and salvage reconstruction for failed joint replacements. Using minimally invasive approaches, he helps facilitate reduced complication rates and faster recovery. Dr. Ball has expertise in hip resurfacing surgery, a technique that is used to preserve the hip bone, allowing younger patients with good bone quality to resume high levels of activity in sports such as surfing, skiing, basketball, and running.

Krishna R. Cidambi, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialty:
Orthopedics

Subspecialty:
Joint

Add'l Languages:
Spanish, Tamil

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Encinitas - Garden View Road
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
Krishna R. Cidambi, MD, is an orthopedic surgeon who specializes in hip and knee replacements. His areas of expertise include anterior total hip replacement (minimally invasive hip replacement), posterior total hip replacement, total knee replacement and partial knee replacement.
Francis B Gonzales, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialty:
Orthopedics

Subspecialty:
Joint

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Encinitas - Garden View Road
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
Francis Gonzales, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon who specializes in adult hip and knee joint replacement surgery.

Christina V. Harris, MPA, PA-C
Physician Assistant

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Joint, Sarcoma (Bone and Soft Tissue)

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
Christina V. Harris, MPA, is a certified physician assistant (PA-C) who works in orthopedic oncology (bone cancer) and joint reconstructions. In this capacity, she assists with preoperative and postoperative care of orthopedic patients in both inpatient and outpatient settings. She also educates patients on orthopedic oncology management as well as hip and knee reconstructions.
Orthopedics - Orthopedic Trauma

David J. Dalstrom, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Sports Medicine
Subspecialties:
Foot & Ankle, Orthopedic Trauma

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
David Dalstrom, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon who specializes in treating traumatic injuries, degenerative conditions and sports injuries of the foot and ankle.

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

Richard (Todd) Allen, MD, PhD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

**Specialty:** Orthopedics  
**Subspecialty:** Spine  

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200

**Bio:**  
Richard (Todd) Allen, MD, is board-certified orthopedic surgeon with expertise in complex adult reconstruction procedures for deformity/scoliosis and tumors. He specializes in complex disorders of the upper cervical spine, including tumors and degenerative or post-traumatic conditions.

Steven Robert Garfin, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Interim Dean, UC San Diego School of Medicine

**Specialties:** Surgery, Orthopedics  
**Subspecialty:** Spine  

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200

**Bio:**  
Steven Garfin, MD, is a board-certified and internationally recognized orthopedic surgeon specializing in the adult spine. He has been consistently elected as a top doctor in San Diego Magazine’s “Physicians of Exceptional Excellence” annual survey performed in collaboration with the San Diego County Medical Society.

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 - Spine (cont.)

Vinko Zlomislic, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Surgery
Subspecialty:
Spine

Encinitas - Garden View Road
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
Vinko Zlomislic, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon who specializes in the surgical and nonsurgical management of cervical, thoracic, and lumbar spine disorders. His expertise includes treating degenerative conditions of the cervical and lumbar spine, spinal trauma and infections, and spinal reconstruction for complex spinal deformity and tumors. Dr. Zlomislic emphasizes nonoperative management, recommending surgery only when conservative measures have failed. If surgical treatment is necessary, he uses minimally invasive methods whenever possible.
Orthopedics - Sports Medicine

Reid Allen Abrams, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Chief of Hand and Microvascular Surgery
Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Sports Medicine

Subspecialties:
Hand & Upper Extremity, Sports Medicine

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
Reid Abrams, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic and hand surgeon. He is chief of Hand and Microvascular Surgery and chairman of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. Dr. Abrams' expertise includes treating severe upper limb trauma; nerve injuries; tendon injuries; arthritis of the elbow wrist and hand; carpal tunnel syndrome; Dupuytren's contracture; as well as fractures and sports injuries of the elbow, forearm, wrist and hand.

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.
Matthew Meunier, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Sports Medicine

Subspecialties:
Sports Medicine, Hand & Upper Extremity

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
Matthew Meunier, MD, is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon who specializes in hand, upper extremity and microvascular surgery to treat a variety of conditions, including fractures and dislocations, shoulder injuries, chronic wrist pain, and congenital hand disorders. He is one of the region’s top hand injury experts and an associate team physician for the San Diego Padres. He was a consultant physician for the San Diego Chargers.

Kenneth Vitale, MD
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Specialist
Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine

Subspecialty:
Sports Medicine

Add'l Language:
Japanese

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

Bio:
Kenneth Vitale, MD, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who specializes in sports medicine and sports nutrition. As a physical medicine and rehabilitation physician (also known as a physiatrist), Dr. Vitale’s expertise is in guiding individuals with orthopedic conditions through a variety of nonsurgical treatment options.
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