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

Cancer
  Breast Cancer ......................................................................................................................... 1.
  Gastrointestinal Cancers .......................................................................................................... 1
  Gynecological Cancers ............................................................................................................... 1
  Head & Neck Cancers ................................................................................................................ 1
  Immunotherapy ......................................................................................................................... 1
  Leukemia & Lymphoma ........................................................................................................... 1
  Lung Cancer ............................................................................................................................. 1
  Melanoma / Skin Cancers .......................................................................................................... 1
  Neurological Oncology ............................................................................................................. 1
  Pancreatic Cancer ................................................................................................................... 1
  Precision Medicine .................................................................................................................. 1
  Psychosocial Oncology ............................................................................................................. 1
  Sarcoma (Bone and Soft Tissue) ............................................................................................ 2
  Urologic Cancer ..................................................................................................................... 3
Nutrition Counseling .................................................................................................................... 4

Orthopedics
  Foot & Ankle ............................................................................................................................ 1
  Hand & Upper Extremity ........................................................................................................... 1
  Joint ......................................................................................................................................... 6
  Orthopedic Trauma ................................................................................................................ 1
  Spine ....................................................................................................................................... 1
  Sports Medicine ...................................................................................................................... 1

Rehabilitation
  Occupational Therapy ............................................................................................................. 8
  Physical Therapy ..................................................................................................................... 9

Speech-Language Pathology ...................................................................................................... 12

Urology
  Incontinence ............................................................................................................................ 13
  Kidney Stones .......................................................................................................................... 14
  Male Infertility .......................................................................................................................... 14
  Urogynecology ......................................................................................................................... 1
  Urologic Cancer ...................................................................................................................... 15

Index ........................................................................................................................................... 16
Cancer - Breast Cancer

Vincent T. Genna, RN, MSN, FNP-BC
Family Nurse Practitioner

Specialty:
Cancer
Subspecialty:
Breast Cancer

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

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Breast Health Center: (866) 773-2703
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Vincent Genna, MSN, is a board-certified family nurse practitioner (FNP-BC) who specializes in providing care for comprehensive breast health, which includes surgical interventions for breast cancer, evaluation and planning for patients who are at high risk for malignancies, and diagnosis and management of benign breast disease. He performs diagnosis, surgical planning, long-term follow up visits, risk reduction for prevention, and postoperative evaluations.
Cancer - Sarcoma (Bone and Soft Tissue)

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.
Cancer - Urologic Cancer

Archana Ajmera, MSN, ANP-BC, AOCNP
Adult Nurse Practitioner

- **Specialty:** Cancer
- **Subspecialty:** Urologic Cancer

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-3840

**Bio:**
Archana Ajmera, MSN, is a board-certified adult nurse practitioner (ANP-BC) and an advanced oncology certified nurse practitioner (AOCNP). She helps treat people with prostate cancer, renal cell carcinoma, urothelial carcinoma, testicular germ cell tumors and penile carcinoma. Her scope of practice includes collaborating with her physician colleagues in physical evaluations, diagnosis, treatment, symptom management, supportive care, and end of life care.

Neremiah Joakim S. Castaño, MS, APRN, ANP-C
Adult Nurse Practitioner

- **Specialties:** Urology, Cancer
- **Subspecialties:** Urologic Cancer, Urologic Cancer

Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7876

**Bio:**
Neremiah Castaño, MS, APRN, is a clinical nurse specialist and certified adult nurse practitioner (ANP-C) who specializes in treating prostate cancer as well as a wide range of urologic conditions, including bladder cancer, kidney cancer, benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), erectile dysfunction, lower urinary tract symptoms, and urinary tract infections. In treating urologic cancers, his approach emphasizes long-term survivorship care, wellness and education.

Kerry L. Paulson, DNP, ANP-C, WHNP-BC
Adult Nurse Practitioner

- **Specialties:** Cancer, Urology
- **Subspecialties:** Urologic Cancer, Urologic Cancer

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7876

**Bio:**
Kerry Paulson, DNP, is a certified adult nurse practitioner (ANP-C) and women's health nurse practitioner (WHNP-BC) who cares for people with urologic cancers, with an emphasis on long-term cancer survivorship care, wellness, and patient education. Her scope of care includes physical evaluations, diagnosis, treatment, symptom management, and supportive care.
Nutrition Counseling

Nutrition Counseling is a process in which a registered dietician works with an individual to assess his or her dietary intake and identify areas where change is needed based upon medical and/or individual needs.

Elena Musser, MPH, RD, CNSC, CSRN
Registered Dietitian

Specialty:
Nutrition Counseling

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

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-7876
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-3572

Bio:
Elena Musser, MPH, CNSC, CSRN, is a registered dietitian who provides medical nutrition therapy and counsels people with kidney, bariatric and diabetic issues on eating habits to improve health and treat diseases.
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.

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 - Joint

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.
Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation focuses on helping people achieve the highest level of function, independence, and quality of life possible. Learn more about the comprehensive rehabilitation services offered at UC San Diego Health.

**Megan Lapicto, DPT**
Physical Therapist

**Specialty:** Rehabilitation

**La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Megan Lapicto, DPT, is a licensed physical therapist who specializes in the evaluation and treatment of women and men with pelvic dysfunction and pelvic pain, including urinary incontinence, urge and stress incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse.

**Susan Neese, MA, CCC-SLP**
Speech-Language Pathologist

**Specialties:**
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

**La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion**

**Jacobs Medical Center**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Susan Neese, MA, is a speech-language pathologist who helps individuals maximize their speech ability, language comprehension and expression, and social and cognitive-communication skills. She also assesses and treats swallowing disorders, which can occur as a result of illness, surgery, stroke or injury. She is the primary speech pathologist at Thornton Pavilion and also helps patients with Parkinson's disease in the neurological rehabilitation program.

**Lindsey Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP**
Speech-Language Pathologist

**Specialties:**
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

**La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion**

**Jacobs Medical Center**

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Lindsey Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP, is a certified speech-language pathologist who evaluates and treats patients with cognitive communication and swallowing disorders. She has a special interest in helping people with neurological disorders such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig’s disease), movement disorders, stroke, and traumatic brain injury.
Rehabilitation - Occupational Therapy

Resenia (Resie) Collins, OTR/L
Occupational Therapist

Specialty: Rehabilitation
Subspecialty: Occupational Therapy

Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

Bio:
Resenia Collins is a registered and licensed occupational therapist (OTR/L) with advanced practice certification in hand therapy and physical agent modalities (PAMs) She is also certified as a lymphedema therapist through the Lymphology Association of North America (LANA).

Lisa F. Harris, OT/L, CHT
Occupational Therapist

Specialty: Rehabilitation
Subspecialty: Occupational Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

Bio:
Lisa Harris, is a licensed occupational therapist (OT/L) and certified hand therapist (CHT). She has more than 25 years’ experience and was among the first group of therapists to become nationally certified in hand rehabilitation in 1990.

Alyssa Mikut, OTR/L
Occupational Therapist

Specialty: Rehabilitation
Subspecialty: Occupational Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

Bio:
Alyssa Mikut, is a registered and licensed occupational therapist (OTR/L). She works with people in the outpatient setting at UC San Diego Health, helping individuals to improve their safety and functional abilities.
Rehabilitation - Physical Therapy

Kelley Becherer, DPT
Physical Therapist

**Specialty:**
Rehabilitation

**Subspecialty:**
Physical Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Kelley Becherer, DPT, is a physical therapist who works with all levels of athletes to help them reach their full potential and goals with emphasis on evidence-based practice.

Catherine (Cathy) Burgess, DPT, OCS
Physical Therapist

**Specialty:**
Rehabilitation

**Subspecialty:**
Physical Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Cathy Burgess, DPT, is a licensed physical therapist and board-certified orthopedic clinical specialist (OCS). She often works with cyclists and is experienced in bicycling biomechanics and treating bicycling-related injuries. Her other areas of expertise include gait analysis; shoulder, knee, and hip pathology; temporomandibular joint disorders (TMD); and treating headaches caused by other illness or physical issues (cervicogenic headaches).

Elizabeth Chien, DPT
Physical Therapist

**Specialty:**
Rehabilitation

**Subspecialty:**
Physical Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Elizabeth Chien, DPT, is a licensed physical therapist who helps treat orthopedic conditions. She enjoys working with diverse groups and people of all ages, from athletes, adolescents, adults, and geriatrics.

Lauren Hermas, MPT, OCS
Physical Therapist

**Specialty:**
Rehabilitation

**Subspecialty:**
Physical Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Lauren Hermas, MPT, is a licensed physical therapist, board-certified orthopedic clinical specialist (OCS) and certified manual therapist (COMT). Ms. Hermas has extensive experience in orthopedics, utilizing evidence-based practices and manual therapy techniques. She works with patients who have a wide variety of musculoskeletal and neuromuscular conditions, and is particularly skilled in treating conditions of the neck and back, foot and ankle and temporomandibular joint dysfunction.
Rehabilitation - Physical Therapy (cont.)

Jason Hooper, DPT, OCS
Physical Therapist

**Specialty:** Rehabilitation
**Subspecialty:** Physical Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Jason Hooper, DPT, is a licensed physical therapist and board-certified orthopedic clinical specialist (OCS) who helps patients with orthopedic injuries and conditions. He teaches individuals how to prevent or manage their condition so they gain improved movement and function, as well as long-term health benefits.

Michelle Obispo McQuerry, DPT, OCS
Physical Therapist

**Specialty:** Rehabilitation
**Subspecialty:** Physical Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Michelle Obispo McQuerry, DPT, is a licensed physical therapist and board-certified orthopedic clinical specialist (OCS) who helps patients with orthopedic injuries and conditions. She helps patients regain function and return to sports they enjoy through biomechanical and functional analysis and movement correction. Michelle enjoys treating orthopedic conditions, sports-related injuries, as well as pre and postpartum-related diagnoses.

Vanessa True, MPT
Physical Therapist

**Specialty:** Rehabilitation
**Subspecialty:** Physical Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Vanessa True, MPT, is a licensed physical therapist who specializes in the evaluation and treatment of women and men with pelvic floor dysfunction and pain.

Nora Vince, DPT, MPH
Physical Therapist

**Specialty:** Rehabilitation
**Subspecialty:** Physical Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Nora Vince, DPT, MPH, is a licensed physical therapist who helps people with orthopedic and neuromuscular conditions. Ms. Vince often works with cancer patients and women with orthopedic conditions related to pregnancy. She enjoys helping patients reach their functional goals and return to the sports and activities they love.
Rehabilitation - Physical Therapy (cont.)

Audrine Yu, DPT
Physical Therapist

Specialty:
Rehabilitation
Subspecialty:
Physical Therapy

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

Bio:
Audrine Yu, DPT is a physical therapist and works primarily in orthopedics. She prioritizes the patient’s overall well-being to facilitate return to meaningful activities and higher quality of life. She enjoys working with a diverse population of people.
Speech-Language Pathology

Speech-language pathology is the clinical specialty that focuses on evaluating and treating communication disorders and swallowing disorders. Learn more about [speech and language therapy](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health.

**Susan Neese, MA, CCC-SLP**

*Speech-Language Pathologist*

**Specialties:**
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

**La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion**

**Jacobs Medical Center**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Susan Neese, MA, is a speech-language pathologist who helps individuals maximize their speech ability, language comprehension and expression, and social and cognitive-communication skills. She also assesses and treats swallowing disorders, which can occur as a result of illness, surgery, stroke or injury. She is the primary speech pathologist at Thornton Pavilion and also helps patients with Parkinson's disease in the neurological rehabilitation program.

**Lindsey Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP**

*Speech-Language Pathologist*

**Specialties:**
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

**La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion**

**Jacobs Medical Center**

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

**Bio:**
Lindsey Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP, is a certified speech-language pathologist who evaluates and treats patients with cognitive communication and swallowing disorders. She has a special interest in helping people with neurological disorders such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease), movement disorders, stroke, and traumatic brain injury.
Urology - Incontinence

Rachel M. Shapiro, MS, PA-C
Physician Assistant

Specialty:
Urology
Subspecialties:
Incontinence, Kidney Stones

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

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7876

Bio:
Rachel Shapiro, MS, is a certified physician assistant (PA-C) who specializes in caring for urology patients. She helps treat a wide range of urological conditions, including benign prostate enlargement, lower urinary tract symptoms, kidney stones, benign scrotal conditions, urinary tract infections, erectile dysfunction, hypogonadism, and incontinence. Shapiro also works with patients with congenital urologic malformations who are transitioning from pediatric to adult care.
Urology - Kidney Stones

Rachel M. Shapiro, MS, PA-C
Physician Assistant

Specialty:
Urology

Subspecialties:
Incontinence, Kidney Stones

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

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7876

Bio:
Rachel Shapiro, MS, is a certified physician assistant (PA-C) who specializes in caring for urology patients. She helps treat a wide range of urological conditions, including benign prostate enlargement, lower urinary tract symptoms, kidney stones, benign scrotal conditions, urinary tract infections, erectile dysfunction, hypogonadism, and incontinence. Shapiro also works with patients with congenital urologic malformations who are transitioning from pediatric to adult care.
Urology - Urologic Cancer

**Neremiah Joakim S. Castaño, MS, APRN, ANP-C**

**Specialties:**
Urology, Cancer

**Subspecialties:**
Urologic Cancer, Urologic Cancer

**Jacobs Medical Center**
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7876

**Bio:**
Neremiah Castaño, MS, APRN, is a clinical nurse specialist and certified adult nurse practitioner (ANP-C) who specializes in treating prostate cancer as well as a wide range of urologic conditions, including bladder cancer, kidney cancer, benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), erectile dysfunction, lower urinary tract symptoms, and urinary tract infections. In treating urologic cancers, his approach emphasizes long-term survivorship care, wellness and education.

---

**Kerry L. Paulson, DNP, ANP-C, WHNP-BC**

**Specialties:**
Cancer, Urology

**Subspecialties:**
Urologic Cancer, Urologic Cancer

**La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7876

**Bio:**
Kerry Paulson, DNP, is a certified adult nurse practitioner (ANP-C) and women’s health nurse practitioner (WHNP-BC) who cares for people with urologic cancers, with an emphasis on long-term cancer survivorship care, wellness, and patient education. Her scope of care includes physical evaluations, diagnosis, treatment, symptom management, and supportive care.
# Index

**A**
- Ajmera, Archana ........................................... 3

**B**
- Becherer, Kelley ........................................... 9
- Burgess, Catherine (Cathy) ......................... 9

**C**
- Castaño, Neremiah Joakim S. ....................... 3, 15
- Chien, Elizabeth ......................................... 9
- Collins, Resenia (Resie) ................................. 8

**G**
- Genna, Vincent T. ........................................ 1

**H**
- Hamilton, James N. .................................... 5
- Harris, Christina V. ................................. 2, 6
- Harris, Lisa F. ................................................ 8
- Hermas, Lauren ........................................... 9
- Hooper, Jason .............................................. 10

**L**
- Lapicto, Megan ............................................ 7

**M**
- McQuerry, Michelle Obispo .......................... 10
- Mikut, Alyssa ................................................ 8
- Musser, Elena ............................................... 4

**N**
- Neese, Susan ............................................... 7, 12

**P**
- Paulson, Kerry L. ......................................... 3, 15

**S**
- Schaefer, Lindsey ....................................... 7, 12
- Shapiro, Rachel M. ...................................... 13, 14

**T**
- True, Vanessa ............................................. 10

**V**
- Vince, Nora .................................................. 10

**Y**
- Yu, Audrine ................................................ 11