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

- Primary Care .................................................................................................................. 1  
- Index .............................................................................................................................. 3
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.

Michelle L. Leff, MD
Newborn Hospitalist and Pediatrician
Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Specialties:
Pediatrics, Primary Care
Subspecialty:
Newborn Hospital Care
Add'l Language:
Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - 8910 Villa La Jolla

Contact:
Registration and Scheduling: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla Pediatrics: (858) 203-4962

Bio:
Michelle L. Leff, MD, is a board-certified pediatrician who specializes in the care of newborns. She also provides primary care for infants, children, and adolescents through all of their life stages. As a newborn hospitalist, Dr. Leff meets with parents and their babies during their postpartum stay in the hospital, providing daily care to infants. This care includes newborn examinations, screening tests and breastfeeding help, including frenotomies.

Desiree Leithem, MS, CNS, FNP-C
Family Nurse Practitioner

Specialty:
Primary Care

Encinitas - Encinitas Blvd
La Jolla - 8910 Villa La Jolla
Jacobs Medical Center
Downtown - West F Street
Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Express Care: (833) 823-9777
Direct Clinic Line - Urgent Care, La Jolla: (858) 249-6800
Emergency Department - La Jolla: (858) 657-7600
Direct Clinic Line - Encinitas: (760) 452-7967

Bio:
Desiree Leithem, MS, is a clinical nurse specialist (CNS) and certified family nurse practitioner (FNP-C) who provides comprehensive care for people of all ages. Her focus is preventive care for individuals in health and wellness. She has over two decades of experience in emergency medicine and serves as the nurse practitioner manager for the Emergency Departments at UC San Diego Health.
Primary Care (cont.)

Amanda Nasser, MS, FNP-BC
Family Nurse Practitioner

Specialty:
Primary Care

La Jolla - 8910 Villa La Jolla
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
Registration and Scheduling: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Urgent Care, La Jolla: (858) 249-6800
Emergency Department - La Jolla: (858) 657-7600

Bio:
Amanda Nasser, MS, is a board-certified family nurse practitioner (FNP-BC) who cares for people of all ages in urgent care with health issues including vomiting, dehydration, strains and sprains, fever and flu, infections and skin rashes, accidents and falls, cuts that require stitches, and minor trauma. She also treats patients in the emergency department including those with life-threatening or critical conditions.

Valerie L. Waters, MS, FNP-C
Family Nurse Practitioner

Specialty:
Primary Care

Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - 8910 Villa La Jolla

Contact:
Registration and Scheduling: (800) 926-8273
Emergency Department - La Jolla: (858) 657-7600
Direct Clinic Line - Urgent Care, La Jolla: (858) 249-6800

Bio:
Valerie Waters, MS, is a certified family nurse practitioner (FNP-C) who cares for people of all ages in urgent care with health issues including vomiting, dehydration, strains and sprains, fever and flu, infections and skin rashes, accidents and falls, cuts that require stitches, and minor trauma. She also treats patients in the emergency department including those with life-threatening or critical conditions.
# Index

| L | Leff, Michelle L. | 1 |
| L | Leithem, Desiree | 1 |
| N | Nasser, Amanda | 2 |
| W | Waters, Valerie L. | 2 |