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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.

Veeral Ajmera, MD
Hepatologist
Medical Director, Liver Transplantation
Assistant Professor of Medicine

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

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

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

Bio:
Veeral Ajmera, MD, is a board-certified gastroenterologist who treats patients with chronic liver disease, including those with cirrhosis. He also has expertise with fatty liver disease and liver transplantation.

Pranab M. Barman, MD
Hepatologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Hepatology (Liver), Gastroenterology, Transplantation
Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation
Add'l Languages:
Hindi, Spanish

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-7728
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices: (619) 543-2347

Bio:
Pranab Barman, MD, is a board-certified gastroenterologist who specializes in liver disease (hepatology) and transplantation. He treats patients with liver cancer, cirrhosis, alcoholic liver disease, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and hepatitis. Dr. Barman’s expertise is in transplant hepatology, caring for patients both before and after transplantation.
Hepatology (Liver) (cont.)

**Tarek Hassanein, MD**
Hepatologist  
Director of Outreach Services, Liver Transplant Program

**Specialty:**  
Hepatology (Liver)

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7728

**Bio:**  
Tarek Hassanein, MD, is a board-certified gastroenterologist and transplant hepatologist who specializes in liver disease. He is focused on the management of viral hepatitis, fatty liver disease, cirrhosis, and care of patients before and after liver transplantation.

**Yuko Kono, MD, PhD**
Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist  
Professor of Medicine and Radiology

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

**Subspecialty:**  
Liver Transplantation

**Add'l Language:**  
Japanese

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**  
**La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5415

**Bio:**  
Yuko Kono, MD, PhD is a hepatologist with a special interest in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) surveillance, diagnosis, management, general hepatology and liver transplantation. She is an expert in contrast enhanced ultrasound imaging.

**Saumya Jayakumar, MD, FRCPC**
Hepatologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

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

**Subspecialty:**  
Liver Transplantation

**Add'l Language:**  
Tamil

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**  
**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**  
**La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5415

**Bio:**  
Saumya Jayakumar, MD, is a hepatologist who treats patients with liver disease. Her clinical and research interests include end-stage liver disease, liver transplant and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease.
Hepatology (Liver) (cont.)

Rohit Loomba, MD
Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist
Vice Chief, Gastroenterology
Director, Hepatology
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Hepatology (Liver), Transplantation

Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation

Add'l Language:
Hindi

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5415

Bio:
Rohit Loomba, MD, is a board-certified gastroenterologist. His expertise includes treating and managing many types of chronic liver disease, such as nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), nonalcoholic steatohepatitis, chronic hepatitis, cirrhosis, and hemochromatosis. As a transplant hepatologist, Dr. Loomba works with transplant surgeons in the pre and postoperative care of liver transplant patients. He also directs the NAFLD Research Center at UC San Diego, and leads a multidisciplinary group of investigators to study NAFLD.

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

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Transplantation, Hepatology (Liver)

Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation

Add'l Language:
French

Location:
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) (cont.)

Irine E. Vodkin, MD
Hepatologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Hepatology (Liver), Transplantation, Gastroenterology

Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation

Add'l Languages:
Russian, Spanish

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5415

Bio:
Irine Vodkin, MD is a board-certified gastroenterologist with a focus on end-stage liver disease and transplantation.
Obesity Medicine

Joslin Cheverie, MD  
Surgeon  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:  
Surgery, Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric), Obesity Medicine  
Subspecialty:  
Minimally Invasive Surgery  
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Bio:  
Joslin Cheverie, MD, is a board-certified surgeon who specializes in minimally invasive surgeries including bariatric procedures performed on the stomach or intestines to contribute to weight loss.

Santiago Horgan, MD  
Surgeon  
Professor of Surgery  
Director, Center for the Future of Surgery

Specialties:  
Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric), Surgery, Cancer, Obesity Medicine  
Subspecialties:  
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Gastrointestinal Cancers  
Add'l Language:  
Spanish  
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Bio:  
Santiago Horgan, MD, is an internationally recognized expert in esophageal disease, weight-loss surgery, minimally invasive surgery and new technologies and approaches for surgery. He performs a variety of weight-loss procedures including gastric sleeve, gastric plication, gastric bypass, and revisional weight-loss surgeries.

Eduardo Grunvald, MD  
Obesity Medicine Physician  
Medical Director, Weight Management Program  
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:  
Obesity Medicine, Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric)  
Add'l Language:  
Spanish  
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Bio:  
Eduardo Grunvald, MD, is a board-certified obesity medicine physician. As part of UC San Diego Health's bariatric surgery team, Dr. Grunvald evaluates and manages patients before and after surgery, and helps people long-term with their health and weight loss journey. He also directs the weight management program, which includes nutrition, behavior, and lifestyle support.
Obesity Medicine (cont.)

Garth Ross Jacobsen, MD
Director, Hernia Surgery
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Surgery, Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric), Obesity Medicine

Subspecialties:
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8860

Bio:
Garth Jacobsen, MD, is a board-certified surgeon who specializes in hernia surgery and repairing abdominal wall defects. He has expertise in both traditional and minimally invasive surgical techniques. Dr. Jacobsen's approach considers each patient as an individual. He works with each person to develop the best repair or surgical plan available.

Daphne (Yvette) LaCoursiere, MD
Obstetrician/Gynecologist
Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences

Specialties:
Obstetrics & Gynecology, Obesity Medicine

Subspecialty:
General Gynecology

La Jolla - 8910 Villa La Jolla
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8745

Bio:
Yvette LaCoursiere, MD, is a board-certified OB/GYN. She provides comprehensive care to women, including maternity care, well woman care, and treatment for common gynecological issues such as abnormal Pap smears, fibroids, ovarian cysts, abnormal bleeding, or gynecological infections.
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