Physician Directory

health.ucsd.edu
Patient Access: 800-926-8273
Physician Access: 855-543-0555
UC San Diego Health Physician Directory

Our physicians are recognized leaders in their professional societies, heading national organizations and committees dedicated to improving care and advancing knowledge about disease. They are prominently listed in publications such as America’s Top Doctors and *U.S. News & World Report*’s rankings of outstanding physicians and clinical programs.

**Patient Access**

**Request an Appointment**
Whether you’re looking for a primary care physician (PCP), need a specialist for treatment or are seeking a second opinion, you can make an appointment by following the steps below:

- **New Patients (who have never seen a UC San Diego Health provider)**
  To register as a new patient and schedule an appointment, call **800-926-8273**, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- **Current Patients**
  Contact your physician’s office directly to schedule an appointment or call the main switchboard number, **858-657-7000**, and ask to be transferred to your physician’s office.

- **Find a Doctor**
  To use our physician search website to find a physician by name or to search for a specialist, visit: [doctors.ucsd.edu](http://doctors.ucsd.edu).

**Referring Physician Access**

**Transfer a Patient**
For hospital-to-hospital transfers, call **619-543-5709** (24-hour service) for instructions or to speak to a transfer coordinator.

**Consultations**
If you need to talk with one of our physicians about a case or if you have any problems or concerns, please contact us at **855-543-0555** from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. We want to hear from you.

**Refer Your Patient**
Call Physician Access at **855-543-0555** or fax **888-539-8781** and our team will register and schedule your referred patient. You will receive follow-up communication (consultation notes, discharges, etc.), as well as access to our electronic medical record system, UCSD Link.
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<th>Hillcrest</th>
<th>Kearny Mesa</th>
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Palliative Care

Gary Buckholz, MD, FAAHPM
Associate Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Palliative Care

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7079

Bio:
Dr. Buckholz specializes in palliative care, which uses a team approach. The goal of palliative care is to prevent and relieve suffering and to support the best possible quality of life for patients and their families, regardless of the stage of disease or the need for other therapies. As such, it can be delivered concurrently with life-prolonging care or as the main focus of care.

Kyle P. Edmonds, MD, FAAHPM
Palliative Medicine Physician
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Palliative Care

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7079

Bio:
Kyle P. Edmonds, MD, is a board-certified palliative care specialist. Palliative medicine focuses on improving the quality of life for people with serious illness and their families. It can help provide relief from symptoms, pain, and emotional stress. As part of the Doris A. Howell Palliative Care service, Dr. Edmonds consults with patients who have been admitted to UC San Diego Health's hospitals in La Jolla and Hillcrest.

Jeremy Hirst, MD
Psychiatrist
Associate Director, Patient and Family Support Services, Moores Cancer Center

Specialties:
Palliative Care, Cancer
Subspecialty:
Psychosocial Oncology

Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-5381

Bio:
Jeremy Hirst, MD, is a board-certified psychiatrist. As part of Patient & Family Support Services at Moores Cancer Center, he treats people who may be experiencing depression, anxiety, insomnia or other psychiatric symptoms that are either a result of the cancer experience or are interfering with cancer treatment. He can provide psychiatric assessments, treatment and medication management.

William Mitchell, MD
Medical Oncologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Palliative Care, Lung Cancer

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
William Mitchell, MD, is a board-certified medical oncologist. He cares for patients with all kinds of thoracic cancer, including lung cancer, mesothelioma and thymomas.
Palliative Care (cont.)

**Loren S. Novak, DO**  
Primary Care Physician  
Affiliated Provider

**Specialties:**  
Primary Care, Family Medicine, Palliative Care  

**Contact:**

**Bio:**  
Loren Novak, DO, is a board-certified physician providing primary care through Tri-City Primary Care. He is a member of UC San Diego Health Physician Network.

**Kira A Skavinski, DO**  
Palliative Care Specialist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**  
Palliative Care

**Moores Cancer Center**

**Contact:**

New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7079

**Bio:**  
Kira Skavinski, DO, is a board-certified palliative care physician who helps relieve suffering in people with life-limiting and chronic illnesses. She provides pain and symptom management, and aims to optimize quality of life for her patients and their families while addressing their medical, psychological, social, and spiritual needs. Dr. Skavinski also assists patients and their families with discussions regarding advance care planning and goals.

**Maria Tiamson-Kassab, MD**

**Specialties:**  
Psychiatry, Palliative Care, Cancer  
**Subspecialty:**  
Psychosocial Oncology  
**Add'l Language:**  
Tagalog  

**Moores Cancer Center**

**Contact:**

New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-5381

**Bio:**  
Maria Tiamson-Kassab, MD, is a board-certified psychiatrist and the director of Moores Cancer Center's Patient & Family Support Services, which treats people who may be experiencing depression, anxiety, insomnia or other psychiatric symptoms that are either a result of the cancer experience or are interfering with cancer treatment. She can provide psychiatric assessment, treatment and medication management.

**Kathryn (Kadee) Winters, MD**

**Palliative Care Specialist**  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**  
Palliative Care

**Jacobs Medical Center**  
**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**

**Contact:**

New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7079

**Bio:**  
Kathryn (Kadee) Winters, MD, is a palliative care physician who provides supportive care for people with cancer or other life-threatening diseases. Palliative medicine focuses on improving the quality of life for people with serious illness and their families. It can help provide relief from symptoms, pain and emotional stress.
Palliative Care (cont.)

Heidi Yeung, MD
Palliative Care Specialist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Palliative Care

Add'l Languages:
French, Mandarin

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7079

Bio:
Heidi Yeung, MD, is a board-certified hospice and palliative care specialist who manages pain and other symptoms related to disease or its treatment. She works with a multidisciplinary team to help individualize care for patients and their families.
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