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Infectious Diseases

Infectious diseases are caused by microorganisms that are capable of causing diseases in the human body, such as bacteria, viruses, parasites or fungi; the disease can be spread from one person to another. Learn more about treatment for infectious diseases at UC San Diego Health.

Shira Abeles, MD
Infectious Disease Specialist

- **Specialties:** Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS
- **Add'l Language:** Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Jacobs Medical Center

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Owen Clinic: (619) 543-3995
Direct Clinic Line - Infectious Disease: (619) 543-6146

**Bio:**
Shira Abeles, MD, is a board-certified infectious disease specialist and medical director of Antimicrobial Stewardship at UC San Diego Health. She cares for patients with general infectious disease as well as people with HIV. She is part of UC San Diego Health's Owen Clinic, one of the nation's outstanding primary care centers for HIV positive men and women.

Saima Aslam, MBBS
Infectious Disease Specialist
Director, Solid Organ Transplant Infectious Diseases Service
Associate Professor of Medicine

- **Specialty:** Infectious Diseases
- **Add'l Language:** Urdu

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

**Bio:**
Saima Aslam, MBBS, is a board-certified infectious disease specialist. Her expertise is in caring for solid-organ transplant candidates and recipients as well as other immunocompromised individuals. Dr. Aslam directs UC San Diego Health's Solid Organ Transplant Infectious Diseases Service, which provides expert care in the prevention and management of infectious diseases in organ transplant donors and recipients.
Infectious Diseases (cont.)

Constance A Benson, MD
Senior Attending Physician
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

Bio:
Dr. Benson is Professor of Medicine in Infectious Diseases at the University of California, San Diego. Dr. Benson received her MD degree from The Ohio State University College of Medicine in 1978, and completed her residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship in Infectious Diseases at Rush University Medical College in Chicago in 1986, after serving three years on active duty in the U.S. Navy as an internist.

Ajay Bharti, MD
Infectious Disease Specialist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Infectious Diseases

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

Bio:
Ajay Bharti, MD, is a board-certified infectious disease specialist. Infectious disease specialists care for patients with infections or diseases caused by viruses, bacteria, fungi and parasites. These include hepatitis viruses, tuberculosis, influenza, and HIV/AIDS, in addition to other infections of the sinuses, heart, brain, lungs, gastrointestinal system, urinary tract, pelvic organs and bones. Dr. Bharti also has expertise in tropical infectious diseases.

Jill S. Blumenthal, MD
Infectious Disease Specialist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS, Primary Care

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3995

Bio:
Jill Blumenthal, MD, is a board-certified infectious disease physician who provides primary care services and specializes in caring for children, teens, and adults with HIV and AIDS. She has expertise in caring for transgender and gender non-conforming individuals seeking hormone replacement therapy and other supportive care. She also has extensive experience in HIV prevention using pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV-uninfected individuals. Dr. Blumenthal cares for people at the UC San Diego Mother, Child and Adolescent HIV Program and UC San Diego Health’s Owen Clinic, one of America’s top HIV care programs.

Sara H Browne, MD

Specialty:
Infectious Diseases

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

Bio:
Sara H. Browne, MD is an Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD).
Edward R. Cachay, MD  
Infectious Disease Specialist  
Professor of Medicine  

Specialties:  
HIV/AIDS, Infectious Diseases  
Add'l Language:  
Spanish  

Hilcrest - Medical Offices South  

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3995  

Bio:  
Edward Cachay, MD, is a board-certified infectious disease physician who specializes in caring for individuals with HIV. He is a part of UC San Diego Health’s Owen Clinic, one of the nation’s outstanding primary care centers for HIV positive men and women.

Anne N. Cowell, MD, MPH  
Infectious Disease Specialist  

Specialty:  
Infectious Diseases  

Hilcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center  
Jacobs Medical Center  

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146  

Bio:  
Anne Cowell, MD, MPH, is a board-certified infectious disease specialist who sees patients in both the hospital and outpatient setting for a range of infectious diseases, including bloodstream and intravascular device infections, intra-abdominal and urinary tract infections, tuberculosis, prosthetic joint infections, and other postoperative infections.

Jennifer R. Dan, MD, PhD  
Infectious Disease Specialist  

Specialty:  
Infectious Diseases  

Hilcrest - Medical Offices South  

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146  

Bio:  
Jennifer Dan, MD, PhD, is a board-certified internist and infectious disease specialist who cares for hospitalized patients.

Jeffrey D. Jenks, MD, MPH  
Primary Care Physician  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  

Specialties:  
Primary Care, Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases  

Hilcrest - 4th & Lewis Medical Offices  

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 471-9250  

Bio:  
Jeffrey Jenks, MD, is a board-certified internal medicine doctor. He provides primary care for adults, including preventive care and diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases. Dr. Jenks also has advanced training in infectious diseases and a special interest in treating tuberculosis.
Infectious Diseases (cont.)

Maile Young Karris, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
HIV/AIDS Specialist

Specialties:
Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3995

Bio:
Maile Young Karris, MD, is a board-certified infectious disease physician who specializes in caring for individuals with HIV. She is a part of UC San Diego Health's Owen Clinic, one of the nation's outstanding primary care centers for HIV positive men and women. Her clinical practice includes caring for individuals newly diagnosed with HIV and helping individuals living with HIV age successfully. Dr. Karris has expertise in non-HIV associated infections in individuals with HIV and in preventing HIV infection (pre-exposure prophylaxis or PrEP).

Susan Little, MD
Professor of Medicine In Residence

Specialty:
Infectious Diseases

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

Bio:
Dr. Susan Little is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases with a research interest in HIV infection. Dr. Little works at the UC San Diego Antiviral Research Center and conducts clinical translational research trials which focus on increasing our understanding of the pathogenesis of acute or primary HIV infection and HIV transmission.

Scott Letendre, MD
Infectious Disease Specialist
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3995

Bio:
Scott Letendre, MD, is an infectious disease specialist who cares for people at UC San Diego Health's Owen Clinic, one of America's top HIV care programs. He also provides consultation and care for patients staying in the hospital for infectious diseases.
Infectious Diseases (cont.)

Sanjay R. Mehta, MD
Transplant Infectious Disease Specialist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Infectious Diseases

Add'l Languages:
Marathi, Portuguese

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

Bio:
Sanjay R. Mehta, MD, is one of the solid organ transplant infectious disease faculty at UC San Diego Health. He maintains an HIV-HCV co-infection clinic and is an assistant director of the Clinical Microbiology Lab at UC San Diego. He is also one of the faculty advisors for the UC Haiti Project.

Michele L. Ritter, MD
Infectious Disease Specialist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Infectious Diseases

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 471-9062

Bio:
Michele L. Ritter, MD, is a board-certified infectious disease specialist who cares for patients with severe or deep-seated infections. She is director of UC San Diego Health’s outpatient parenteral antibiotic therapy (OPAT) program, which allows patients to avoid hospitalization for serious infections by receiving intravenous (IV) antimicrobial therapies in an outpatient setting, including at-home care.

David Pride, MD, PhD

Specialties:
Pathology, Infectious Diseases

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273

Bio:
Our laboratory focuses on the role that microbial communities play in human homeostasis, health and disease. We firmly believe that the various microbial components of human ecosystems including bacteria, viruses, archaea, and fungi are important factors that help determine the natural history of their hosts. Furthermore, their interactions with humans or their interactions with other microbial constituents in these communities likely have consequences for human health.

Maria C. Savoia, MD
Infectious Disease Specialist
Dean, Medical Education

Specialty:
Infectious Diseases

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

Bio:
Maria C. Savoia, MD, is a board-certified infectious disease specialist. She cares for patients with infections caused by germs such as bacteria, fungi, viruses and parasites. She also provides counsel and preventive medicine services for healthy people who plan to travel. Dr. Savoia believes that the relationship between the physician and patient should be a partnership, and works closely with each patient to restore their health.
Infectious Diseases (cont.)

Robert Turner Schooley, MD
Infectious Disease Specialist
Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases

Specialty:
Infectious Diseases

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

Bio:
Robert T. Schooley, MD, is an infectious disease specialist and an expert in HIV and hepatitis C (HCV) infection and treatment. Infectious disease specialists care for patients with infections or diseases caused by viruses, bacteria, fungi and parasites. These include hepatitis viruses, tuberculosis, influenza, and HIV/AIDS, in addition to infections of the sinuses, heart, brain, lungs, gastrointestinal system, urinary tract, pelvic organs and bones.

Francesca Torriani, MD
Medical Director, Infection Prevention and Clinical Epidemiology
Professor of Clinical Medicine

Specialties:
Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS

Add'l Languages:
French, German, Italian, Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3995

Bio:
Francesca J. Torriani, MD, is a Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). Dr. Torriani received her medical degree in 1985 from the University Medical School in Lausanne, Switzerland. In 1995, Dr. Torriani joined UC San Diego Health after completing a fellowship in infectious diseases.

Randy Taplitz, MD
Clinical Director, Infectious Diseases
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Infectious Diseases

Add'l Language:
French

Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

Bio:
Randy Taplitz, MD, is a board-certified infectious disease physician who specializes in infections in compromised individuals, especially those patients with malignant disorders and stem cell transplant recipients. She is the clinical director of Infectious Diseases at UC San Diego Health.
Infectious Diseases (cont.)

Darcy A. Wooten, MD  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Infectious Disease Specialist

**Specialties:**  
Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**  
Jacobs Medical Center

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

**Bio:**  
Darcy A. Wooten, MD, is an infectious disease specialist who diagnoses and treats diseases caused by viruses, bacteria, fungi, and parasites. These include hepatitis viruses, tuberculosis, influenza, and HIV/AIDS, among others. Dr. Wooten provides primary care for adults with HIV and specialized care and treatment for patients with hepatitis C virus (HCV). She also has expertise in general infectious diseases, including infections of the sinuses, heart, brain, lungs, gastrointestinal system, urinary tract, pelvic organs, and bones.

David L. Wyles, MD  
Infectious Disease Specialist  
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**  
Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

**Bio:**  
David L. Wyles, MD, is an infectious disease specialist and hepatitis C (HCV) infection and treatment expert. Infectious disease specialists care for patients with infections or diseases caused by viruses, bacteria, fungi and parasites. These include hepatitis viruses, tuberculosis, influenza, and HIV/AIDS, in addition to other infections of the sinuses, heart, brain, lungs, gastrointestinal system, urinary tract, pelvic organs and bones.
Infectious Diseases - Tropical Diseases

Sharon Lee Reed, MD
Professor of Pathology and Medicine
Infectious Disease Specialist

**Specialty:**
Infectious Diseases

**Subspecialty:**
Tropical Diseases

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6146

**Bio:**
Sharon L. Reed, MD, is a board-certified infectious disease specialist and physician with UC San Diego Health. Since 1994, she has also been director of the clinical microbiology laboratory at UC San Diego Health.
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

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.

Amelia Eastman, DO
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Specialist
Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health

Specialties:
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Pain Management, Sports Medicine,
Osteopathic Medicine

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
La Jolla - 9333 Genesee Avenue
La Jolla - 8939 Villa La Jolla Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6035
Direct Clinic Line: (844) 747-0474

Bio:
Amelia Eastman, DO, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who meets with patients at different types of UC San Diego Health clinics to help with pain issues and rehabilitation. She uses a hands-on approach to diagnose injury and illness and encourage the body’s natural tendency for good health.

Jeffrey Chen, MD, MHS
Pain Management Specialist
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology

Specialties:
Pain Management, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-3800
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (844) 747-0474

Bio:
Jeffrey L. Chen, MD, MHS, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who specializes in the non-surgical treatment of back/neck pain and other musculoskeletal injuries. He is the director of Regenerative Pain Medicine and the associate program director for the Pain Medicine Fellowship at UC San Diego School of Medicine.

Roger J. Mignosa, DO
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Specialist

Specialties:
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Osteopathic Medicine, Family Medicine

La Jolla - 9333 Genesee Avenue
Scripps Ranch - 9909 Mira Mesa Blvd

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-8600
Direct Clinic Line - Scripps Ranch: (858) 657-7750

Bio:
Roger Mignosa, DO, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician and an exercise physiologist. Physical medicine and rehabilitation specialists help restore function in individuals who have impaired physical activity as a result of illness or injury.
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (cont.)

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

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:
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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