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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 at UC San Diego Health.

Liza S. Blumenfeld, MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-S
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialty: Speech-Language Pathology
Add'l Language: Spanish

Moores Cancer Center
La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Bio: Liza Blumenfeld, MA, is a speech-language pathologist with expertise in managing complex voice and swallowing disorders in a variety of patients, including those with head and neck cancer. She is a board-certified swallowing disorders specialist (BCS-S) whose therapeutic approach integrates science and technology within a multidisciplinary care model. She is dedicated to restoring patients’ quality of life while they battle the side effects of cancer treatments.

Lauren Davis, MA, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialties: Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio: Lauren Davis, MA, is a certified speech-language pathologist who helps individuals maximize their speech ability, language comprehension and expression, social and cognitive-communication skills. She also assesses and treats voice and swallowing disorders. She provides assessment for alternative and augmentative communication (AAC) devices.

Kristen Linnemeyer, MA, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Moores Cancer Center
La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact: New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 249-4070

Bio: Kristen Linnemeyer, MA, CCC-SLP, is a certified speech-language pathologist with expertise in assessing and treating patients with complex voice and swallowing disorders that occur as a result of illness, surgery, stroke, injury, or head and neck cancer. She has a special interest in post-laryngectomy voice and swallow restoration. Linnemeyer is part of the voice and swallow team within Head and Neck Surgery at UC San Diego Health.
Speech-Language Pathology (cont.)

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 Unger, MS, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialties:
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

La Jolla - 8929 University Center Lane

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

Bio:
Lindsey Unger is a speech language pathologist who helps individuals maximize their speech ability, language comprehension and expression, social and cognitive-communication skills. She also assesses and treats voice and swallowing disorders, and provides assessments for augmentative alternative communication devices.

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.

Erin H. Walsh, MA, CCC-SLP, IBCLC
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialty:
Speech-Language Pathology

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-4070

Bio:
Erin Walsh, MA, is a speech-language pathologist, singing voice specialist and lactation consultant. She has clinical expertise in managing a wide variety of voice disorders and newborn feeding difficulties, and a special interest in rehabilitating performers and professional voice users. She is a part of the voice and swallowing team within Head and Neck Surgery at UC San Diego Health.
Transplantation - Heart Transplantation

Eric David Adler, MD
Cardiologist
Director of Cardiac Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cardiology, Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Eric D. Adler, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist and medical director of advanced heart failure, mechanical circulatory support and cardiac transplantation.

Denise Dayle Barnard, MD
Director, Women's Cardiovascular Health Program
Assistant Director, Advanced Heart Failure Program, Cardiac Transplantation & Mechanical Circulatory Assist Device Program
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cardiology, Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5743

Bio:
Denise Barnard, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who is actively involved in UC San Diego Health's Advanced Heart Failure, Cardiac Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Assist Device Programs. She is a nationally recognized heart failure expert and also practices at the VA San Diego Healthcare.
Transplantation - Heart Transplantation (cont.)

**Barry H. Greenberg, MD, FHFSA**  
Director, Advanced Heart Failure Treatment Program  
Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**  
Cardiology, Transplantation

**Subspecialties:**  
Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

**Add'l Language:**  
French

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

**Bio:**  
Barry H. Greenberg, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist and internationally recognized pioneer in the field of heart failure. He directs the Advanced Heart Failure Treatment Program at UC San Diego Health.

**Michael M Madani, MD, FACS**  
Division Chief, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery  
Executive Director, Surgery - Cardiovascular Institute  
Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Cardiology, Transplantation, Surgery

**Subspecialties:**  
Heart Transplantation, Lung Transplantation, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Heart Failure

**Add'l Language:**  
Persian

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

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7777

**Bio:**  
Michael Madani, MD, is a board-certified cardiovascular surgeon who oversees a variety of surgical services at UC San Diego Health, including surgical treatment for heart failure, lung transplantation and pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE). He is the surgical director of the Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) Program, and is also an expert in minimally invasive heart surgery, mitral valve repair and off-pump bypass surgery.
Transplantation - Heart Transplantation (cont.)

Travis L. Pollema, DO
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery, Cardiology, Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7777

Bio:
Travis L. Pollema, DO, is a cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in treating diseases of the heart and lungs. His expertise includes treating coronary artery disease with bypass surgery and valvular heart disease with valve repair or replacement. Dr. Pollema performs operations for patients with advanced stages of heart failure; patients needing mechanical circulatory support, including temporary and permanent ventricular assist devices (VADs); and those who have undergone or need heart and/or lung transplantation. He also implements and manages the care of those requiring extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), a type of life support treatment that provides enough oxygen to a person while allowing time for their lungs and heart to rest or heal.

Victor (Gert) Pretorius, MBChB
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Surgical Director of Heart Transplant
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Cardiology, Surgery, Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Heart Transplantation, Lung Transplantation

Add'l Language:
Afrikaans

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Victor (Gert) Pretorius, MBChB, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in lead management. Pacemakers and implantable cardioverter-defibrillators (ICDs) deliver energy to the heart through thin, flexible wires called leads. When these leads are not working properly – because of infection, damage, or surrounding scar tissue – they need to be removed. Dr. Pretorius performs a minimally invasive procedure called laser lead extraction to cut through scar tissue surrounding the lead, allowing it to be easily removed.
Transplantation - Heart Transplantation (cont.)

**Jorge E. Silva Enciso, MD**  
Cardiologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**  
Cardiology, Transplantation  
**Subspecialties:**  
Heart Transplantation, Heart Failure  
**Add'l Language:**  
Spanish  

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

**Bio:**  
Jorge Silva Enciso, MD, is a board-certified advanced heart failure and transplant cardiologist. He cares for patients with progressive heart failure symptoms in need of advanced therapies or surgical treatments including ventricular assist devices (VADs) or heart transplantation.

**Patricia Thistlethwaite, MD, PhD**  
Cardiothoracic Surgeon  
Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Transplantation, Cancer, Surgery  
**Subspecialties:**  
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Heart Transplantation, Lung Cancer  

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

**Bio:**  
Patricia A. Thistlethwaite, MD, PhD, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in lung cancer, mediastinal and chest wall surgery, diseases of the thymus, minimally invasive thoracic surgery, and heart and lung transplantation. She focuses on providing patient-centered clinical care, using minimally invasive approaches to treat thoracic disease.

**Marcus A. Urey, MD**  
Cardiologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**  
Cardiology, Transplantation  
**Subspecialties:**  
Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation  
**Add'l Language:**  
Spanish  

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

**Bio:**  
Marcus A. Urey, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist specializing in advanced heart failure, mechanical circulatory devices and heart transplantation. In addition to his expertise in caring for those with end stage heart failure, he has a special interest in the evaluation and treatment of adults with heart failure caused by congenital heart disease (heart defects that are present at birth) and those with amyloidosis, a rare condition that can involve the heart. He works closely with colleagues from different subspecialties to offer these patients the most up-to-date treatment with the intent of improving both their longevity and quality of life.
Transplantation - Kidney Transplantation

Tomasz Beben, MD
Nephrologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Nephrology (Kidney), Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Chronic Kidney Disease, Kidney Transplantation, Dialysis, Transplant Nephrology

Add'l Language:
Polish

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-7729

Bio:
Thomasz Beben, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist who specializes in chronic kidney disease. He sees patients on dialysis with end-stage renal disease, as well as pre- and post-kidney transplant patients. Dr. Beben also has expertise treating people with hypertensive nephrosclerosis and various electrolyte abnormalities.

Jennifer Berumen, MD
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon
Director of Living Donor Kidney Transplant
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Transplantation, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Hepatobiliary Surgery, Liver Transplantation, Kidney Transplantation, Pancreas Transplantation

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6487
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-7729

Bio:
Jennifer Berumen, MD, is a surgeon specializing in abdominal transplantation and hepatobiliary (liver and bile duct) surgery. She performs kidney, liver and pancreas transplantations.

Adnan Khan, MBBS, FASN, FNKF
Nephrologist

Specialties:
Nephrology (Kidney), Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Kidney Transplantation, Transplant Nephrology, Pancreas Transplantation

Add'l Languages:
Hindi, Urdu

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-7729
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6248

Bio:
Adnan Khan, MBBS, is a board-certified nephrologist who specializes in all aspects of kidney and pancreas transplantation. He also has expertise in treating patients with complex cases of hypertension.
Transplantation - Kidney Transplantation (cont.)

Kristin L. Mekeel, MD
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon
Chief, Division of Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery
Surgical Director, Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Surgery, Transplantation
Subspecialties:
Kidney Transplantation, Liver Transplantation, Pancreas Transplantation,
Hepatobiliary Surgery, General and Gastrointestinal Surgery

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-7729
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6487

Bio:
Kristin Mekeel, MD, is a board-certified transplant surgeon who specializes
in liver, kidney, and pancreas transplantation surgery in adults and children. She performs operations in patients with conditions such as chronic kidney disease, chronic liver disease, liver cancer and diabetes.

Justin Parekh, MD
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Surgery, Transplantation
Subspecialties:
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery, Kidney Transplantation, Hepatobiliary Surgery, Liver Transplantation, Pancreas Transplantation

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7729

Bio:
Justin Parekh, MD, is a board-certified surgeon who specializes in transplantation of the liver, kidney and pancreas, as well as hepatobiliary (liver and gall bladder) surgery. He also has expertise in treating liver tumors, hepatocellular carcinoma, cirrhosis and end-stage renal disease.

Gabriel T. Schnickel, MD, MPH
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon
Surgical Director, Liver Transplantation
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Transplantation, Surgery, Cancer
Subspecialties:
Gastrointestinal Cancers, Hepatobiliary Surgery, Pancreas Transplantation, Liver Transplantation, Kidney Transplantation

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
Gabriel T. Schnickel, MD, MPH, is a board-certified surgeon who specializes in liver, kidney and pancreas transplant. His expertise includes treating liver cancer, bile duct cancer, liver cysts, and benign tumors of the liver.
Transplantation - Kidney Transplantation (cont.)

Mita M. Shah, MD
Nephrologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Nephrology (Kidney), Transplantation
Subspecialties:
Pancreas Transplantation, Dialysis, Apheresis, Kidney Transplantation

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-7729
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6248

Bio:
Mita Shah, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist who specializes in the care and management of kidney transplant patients with a special interest in the management of immunosuppression to improve long-term graft survival.

Robert W. Steiner, MD
Co-Director of Transplant Nephrology
Medical Director, Kidney & Pancreas Transplantation
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Nephrology (Kidney), Transplantation
Subspecialties:
Apheresis, Kidney Transplantation

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-7729
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6248

Bio:
In the years I have taught and practiced at UC San Diego (and for a time in the community), I have seen countless improvements in the care of kidney patients. Our understanding of kidney diseases and dialysis management has never been better. At the same time, our ability to prevent kidney transplant failure has markedly improved. We now better understand the risks of living kidney donation. Working with the transplant team at UCSD, and with others across the country, has helped us to successfully address these issues.
Transplantation - Kidney Transplantation (cont.)

David Malcom Ward, MD, FRCP
Nephrologist
Professor of Clinical Medicine, Emeritus

Specialties:
Nephrology (Kidney), Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Kidney Transplantation, Apheresis

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line:: (619) 543-6397
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-7729
Direct Clinic Line - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion: (858) 249-3030

Bio:
David Malcom Ward, MD, is a nephrologist who specializes in apheresis, a medical procedure that involves passing a person’s blood through a device that separates out a component of the blood from its other parts and returns the remainder of the blood into circulation.
Transplantation - Liver Transplantation

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 - Liver Center: (619) 543-5415
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.
Transplantation - Liver Transplantation (cont.)

Jennifer Berumen, MD
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon
Director of Living Donor Kidney Transplant
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
- Transplantation, Surgery

Subspecialties:
- Hepatobiliary Surgery, Liver Transplantation, Kidney Transplantation, Pancreas Transplantation

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
- New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
- Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6487
- Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-7729

Bio:
Jennifer Berumen, MD, is a surgeon specializing in abdominal transplantation and hepatobiliary (liver and bile duct) surgery. She performs kidney, liver and pancreas transplantations.

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 - Liver Center: (619) 543-5415
- Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr. (Liver Transplantation): (858) 657-7728
- Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices (Gastroenterology): (619) 543-2347

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.
Transplantation - Liver Transplantation (cont.)

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.

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

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:
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.
Transplantation - Liver Transplantation (cont.)

Kristin L. Mekeel, MD
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon
Chief, Division of Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery
Surgical Director, Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Surgery, Transplantation
Subspecialties:
Kidney Transplantation, Liver Transplantation, Pancreas Transplantation,
Hepatobiliary Surgery, General and Gastrointestinal Surgery

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-7729
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6487

Bio:
Kristin Mekeel, MD, is a board-certified transplant surgeon who specializes in liver, kidney, and pancreas transplantation surgery in adults and children. She performs operations in patients with conditions such as chronic kidney disease, chronic liver disease, liver cancer and diabetes.

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

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Transplantation, Hepatology (Liver)
Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation
Add'l Language:
French

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.
Transplantation - Liver Transplantation (cont.)

**Justin Parekh, MD**  
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon  
Associate Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Surgery, Transplantation  

**Subspecialties:**  
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery, Kidney Transplantation, Hepatobiliary Surgery, Liver Transplantation, Pancreas Transplantation

**La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7729

**Bio:**  
Justin Parekh, MD, is a board-certified surgeon who specializes in transplantation of the liver, kidney and pancreas, as well as hepatobiliary (liver and gall bladder) surgery. He also has expertise in treating liver tumors, hepatocellular carcinoma, cirrhosis and end-stage renal disease.

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**Suzanne Sharpton, MD**  
Hepatologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

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

**Subspecialty:**  
Liver Transplantation

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

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

**Bio:**  
Suzanne Sharpton, MD, MAS, is a general and transplant hepatologist with expertise in managing many types of chronic liver disease, including nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, chronic hepatitis, autoimmune disorders, cirrhosis, and liver disease caused by alcohol. She works closely with members of the UC San Diego Health Liver Transplant team in order to provide care to patients in need of liver transplantation.

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**Gabriel T. Schnickel, MD, MPH**  
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon  
Surgical Director, Liver Transplantation  
Associate Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Transplantation, Surgery, Cancer  

**Subspecialties:**  
Gastrointestinal Cancers, Hepatobiliary Surgery, Pancreas Transplantation, Liver Transplantation, Kidney Transplantation

**La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7729

**Bio:**  
Gabriel T. Schnickel, MD, MPH, is a board-certified surgeon who specializes in liver, kidney and pancreas transplant. His expertise includes treating liver cancer, bile duct cancer, liver cysts, and benign tumors of the liver.
Transplantation - Liver Transplantation (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 and transplant hepatologist with a focus on end-stage liver disease and transplantation.
Transplantation - Lung Transplantation

Kamyar Afshar, DO
Director, Advanced Lung Disease Program
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Pulmonology (Lung), Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Critical Care

Add'l Language:
Farsi

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6097

Bio:
Kamyar Afshar, DO, is a board-certified pulmonary and critical care physician who specializes in complex lung diseases and lung transplantation. His expertise includes treating cystic fibrosis (CF) and non-CF bronchiectasis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, interstitial lung disease, sarcoidosis, as well as rare lung diseases such as lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM) and tuberous sclerosis complex.

Joshua A. Boys, MD
Thoracic Surgeon

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery, Transplantation, Cancer

Subspecialty:
Lung Transplantation

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Lung Transplantation: (858) 657-5050
Direct Clinic Line - Surgery: (858) 657-7777

Bio:
Joshua Boys, MD, is a cardiothoracic surgeon who treats people with cancer of the lung and esophagus, chest wall tumors and mediastinal tumors. He performs lung transplantations and also treats gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) and achalasia (i.e. an esophagus disorder that makes it difficult for food to pass into the stomach).
Transplantation - Lung Transplantation (cont.)

Timothy J. Floreth, MD  
Pulmonologist

**Specialties:**  
Pulmonology (Lung), Transplantation

**Subspecialties:**  
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Lung Transplantation

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**  
La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive  
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices  
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (855) 355-5864  
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices (Pulmonology): (858) 355-5864  
Direct Clinic Line - Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center: (858) 657-5050  
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6303

**Bio:**  
Timothy Floreth, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist who is nationally recognized for his expertise in treating chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), interstitial lung disease and cystic fibrosis.

Eugene Golts, MD  
Cardiothoracic Surgeon  
Associate Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery, Cardiology, Transplantation

**Subspecialties:**  
Heart Failure, Lung Transplantation

**Add'l Languages:**  
Russian, Ukrainian

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7777

**Bio:**  
Eugene Golts, MD, is a board-certified general and cardiothoracic surgeon who performs the full scope of cardiothoracic surgery and thoracic organ transplantation. Dr. Golts is surgical director of the Lung Transplant Program at UC San Diego Health.
Transplantation - Lung Transplantation (cont.)

Michael M Madani, MD, FACS  
Division Chief, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery  
Executive Director, Surgery - Cardiovascular Institute  
Professor of Surgery  

Specialties: 
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Cardiology, Transplantation, Surgery  

Subspecialties: 
Heart Transplantation, Lung Transplantation, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Heart Failure  

Add'l Language:  
Persian  

Jacobs Medical Center  
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center  

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7777  

Bio:  
Michael Madani, MD, is a board-certified cardiovascular surgeon who oversees a variety of surgical services at UC San Diego Health, including surgical treatment for heart failure, lung transplantation and pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE). He is the surgical director of the Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) Program, and is also an expert in minimally invasive heart surgery, mitral valve repair and off-pump bypass surgery.  

Anthony Perricone, MD  
Clinical Professor  

Specialties:  
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Cancer, Surgery, Transplantation  

Subspecialties:  
Lung Cancer, Lung Transplantation, Minimally Invasive Surgery  

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7777  

Bio:  
Dr. Perricone is director of the Cardiothoracic Unit at the Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center, and surgical director of lung transplantation at UC San Diego Health.
Transplantation - Lung Transplantation (cont.)

Travis L. Pollema, DO
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery, Cardiology, Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7777

Bio:
Travis L. Pollema, DO, is a cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in treating diseases of the heart and lungs. His expertise includes treating coronary artery disease with bypass surgery and valvular heart disease with valve repair or replacement. Dr. Pollema performs operations for patients with advanced stages of heart failure; patients needing mechanical circulatory support, including temporary and permanent ventricular assist devices (VADs); and those who have undergone or need heart and/or lung transplantation. He also implements and manages the care of those requiring extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), a type of life support treatment that provides enough oxygen to a person while allowing time for their lungs and heart to rest or heal.

Victor (Gert) Pretorius, MBChB
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Surgical Director of Heart Transplant
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Cardiology, Surgery, Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Heart Transplantation, Lung Transplantation

Add'l Language:
Afrikaans

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Victor (Gert) Pretorius, MBChB, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in lead management. Pacemakers and implantable cardioverter-defibrillators (ICDs) deliver energy to the heart through thin, flexible wires called leads. When these leads are not working properly – because of infection, damage, or surrounding scar tissue – they need to be removed. Dr. Pretorius performs a minimally invasive procedure called laser lead extraction to cut through scar tissue surrounding the lead, allowing it to be easily removed.
Transplantation - Lung Transplantation (cont.)

Gordon Yung, MD
Pulmonologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Pulmonology (Lung), Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Critical Care, Lung Transplantation

Add'l Language:
Cantonese

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5050

Bio:
Gordon Yung, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist who is medical director of lung transplantation. He also specializes in advanced lung disease, including interstitial lung disease, pulmonary hypertension and COPD.
Transplantation - Pancreas Transplantation

Jennifer Berumen, MD
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon
Director of Living Donor Kidney Transplant
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Transplantation, Surgery
Subspecialties:
Hepatobiliary Surgery, Liver Transplantation, Kidney Transplantation, Pancreas Transplantation

Bio:
Jennifer Berumen, MD, is a surgeon specializing in abdominal transplantation and hepatobiliary (liver and bile duct) surgery. She performs kidney, liver and pancreas transplantations.

Kristin L. Mekeel, MD
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon
Chief, Division of Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery
Surgical Director, Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Surgery, Transplantation
Subspecialties:
Kidney Transplantation, Liver Transplantation, Pancreas Transplantation, Hepatobiliary Surgery, General and Gastrointestinal Surgery

Bio:
Kristin Mekeel, MD, is a board-certified transplant surgeon who specializes in liver, kidney, and pancreas transplantation surgery in adults and children. She performs operations in patients with conditions such as chronic kidney disease, chronic liver disease, liver cancer and diabetes.

Adnan Khan, MBBS, FASN, FNKF
Nephrologist

Specialties:
Nephrology (Kidney), Transplantation
Subspecialties:
Kidney Transplantation, Transplant Nephrology, Pancreas Transplantation
Add'l Languages:
Hindi, Urdu

Bio:
Adnan Khan, MBBS, is a board-certified nephrologist who specializes in all aspects of kidney and pancreas transplantation. He also has expertise in treating patients with complex cases of hypertension.
Transplantation - Pancreas Transplantation (cont.)

Justin Parekh, MD
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**
Surgery, Transplantation

**Subspecialties:**
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery, Kidney Transplantation, Hepatobiliary Surgery, Liver Transplantation, Pancreas Transplantation

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (657) 657-7729

**Bio:**
Justin Parekh, MD, is a board-certified surgeon who specializes in transplantation of the liver, kidney and pancreas, as well as hepatobiliary (liver and gall bladder) surgery. He also has expertise in treating liver tumors, hepatocellular carcinoma, cirrhosis and end-stage renal disease.

Mita M. Shah, MD
Nephrologist
Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**
Nephrology (Kidney), Transplantation

**Subspecialties:**
Pancreas Transplantation, Dialysis, Apheresis, Kidney Transplantation

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.:: (657) 657-7729
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6248

**Bio:**
Mita Shah, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist who specializes in the care and management of kidney transplant patients with a special interest in the management of immunosuppression to improve long-term graft survival.

Gabriel T. Schnickel, MD, MPH
Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgeon
Surgical Director, Liver Transplantation
Associate Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**
Transplantation, Surgery, Cancer

**Subspecialties:**
Gastrointestinal Cancers, Hepatobiliary Surgery, Pancreas Transplantation, Liver Transplantation, Kidney Transplantation

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (657) 657-7729

**Bio:**
Gabriel T. Schnickel, MD, MPH, is a board-certified surgeon who specializes in liver, kidney and pancreas transplant. His expertise includes treating liver cancer, bile duct cancer, liver cysts, and benign tumors of the liver.
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