UC San Diego Health Physician Directory

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Palliative Care

Andrew (Drew) Bruggeman, MD
Radiation Oncologist
Assistant Professor of Radiation Medicine and Applied Sciences

Specialties:
Radiation Oncology, Cancer, Palliative Care
Subspecialities:
Leukemia & Lymphoma, Neurological Oncology

Moores Cancer Center
La Jolla - PET/CT Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6040

Bio:
Andrew Bruggeman, MD, is a radiation oncologist who specializes in using therapeutic radiation for palliative care. He works closely with the palliative care team at Moores Cancer Center to provide relief with palliative radiotherapy to people with cancer. He also treats patients with lymphoma and brain cancers.

Gary Buckholz, MD, FAAHPM
Palliative Medicine Physician
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) 534-9061

Bio:
Gary Buckholz, MD, is a board-certified palliative care specialist and hospice medical director (HDMC). 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 at the same time with life-sustaining care or as the main focus of care.

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

Specialties:
Psychiatry, Palliative Care, Cancer
Subspecialty:
Psychosocial Oncology

Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-9061

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.

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) 534-9061

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.
Palliative Care (cont.)

Kevin McGehrin, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Palliative Care

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-3500
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (858) 657-8540
Direct Clinic Line - Palliative Care: (858) 534-9061

Bio:
Kevin McGehrin, MD, is a palliative care physician and board-certified neurologist who provides expert care for patients with a variety of neurological conditions, including Parkinson’s disease and Alzheimer’s disease.

William Mitchell, MD
Medical Oncologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Medical Oncology, Cancer, Palliative Care
Subspecialty:
Lung Cancer

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100
Direct Clinic Line - Palliative Care: (858) 534-9061

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.

Tamara Rubenzik, MD
Nephrologist and Palliative Care Specialist

Specialties:
Nephrology (Kidney), Palliative Care
Subspecialties:
Chronic Kidney Disease, Dialysis, Critical Care Nephrology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center
Vista - Sycamore Avenue

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Palliative Care: (858) 534-9061
Direct Clinic Line - Vista: (760) 598-1776
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6248

Bio:
Tamara Rubenzik, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist and palliative care physician. She works in both the Departments of Nephrology and Palliative Care at UC San Diego Health.
Palliative Care (cont.)

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) 534-9061

**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.

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) 534-9061

**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.

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) 534-9061

**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.

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) 534-9061

**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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