UC San Diego Health Physician Directory

From routine doctor visits to the most advanced procedures, our doctors are here for you. Our specialty care for complex conditions — including cancer, heart disease, neurosurgery, pulmonology and more — is rated among the nation’s best by *U.S. News & World Report*.

**For Patients**

**Make an Appointment**
Whether you need to be seen for an urgent condition today or are looking for a new primary care physician or specialty care provider, we can help. Call **800-926-8273** between 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

[health.ucsd.edu/request_appt](http://health.ucsd.edu/request_appt)

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[providers.ucsd.edu](http://providers.ucsd.edu)

**Physician Access Services**

**Refer a Patient or Request Consultation**
Call Physician Access Services at **855-543-0555** from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Transfer an Inpatient**
For hospital-to-hospital transfers, call **619-543-5709** (24-hour service) for instructions.
Table of Contents

Allergy & Immunology

Asthma .......................................................................................................................... 2

Stroke Care .................................................................................................................. 3

Index ............................................................................................................................ 6
Allergy & Immunology

Allergy and Immunology is the medical specialty concerned with allergies and disorders of the immune system. Learn more about allergy and immunology at UC San Diego Health.

Bruce Zuraw, MD
Allergist, Immunologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Allergy & Immunology

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5350

Bio:
Bruce Zuraw, MD, is a board-certified physician who specializes in angioedema, urticaria, allergic and non-allergic rhinitis, allergen immunotherapy, anaphylaxis, and sinusitis. Dr. Zuraw directs the US HAEA Angioedema Center at UC San Diego Health.
Allergy & Immunology - Asthma

Sandra C. Christiansen, MD
Allergist/Immunologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Allergy & Immunology
Subspecialty:
Asthma

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5350

Bio:
Sandra C. Christiansen, MD, is a board-certified allergist/immunologist who specializes in diagnosing and treating angioedema and allergic airway disease. Dr. Christiansen is an internationally respected allergy and angioedema expert and cares for people with various medical conditions related to the immune system. These include respiratory tract diseases (e.g. sinusitis and asthma), allergic conditions of the skin (e.g. atopic dermatitis) and food and medication sensitivity.

Taylor Doherty, MD
Allergist/Immunologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Allergy & Immunology
Subspecialty:
Asthma

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5350

Bio:
Taylor Doherty, MD, is a board-certified allergist/immunologist with expertise in asthma, allergies and adult immune deficiency. He provides diagnosis and treatment for problems related to the human immune system such as skin disorders (e.g., hives, eczema), respiratory tract diseases (e.g., sinusitis, asthma), autoimmune related disease (e.g., arthritis) and food and medication sensitivity.

Marc A. Riedl, MD
Allergist/Immunologist
Clinical Director, Angioedema Center
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Allergy & Immunology
Subspecialty:
Asthma

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5350

Bio:
Marc A. Riedl, MD, is a board-certified allergist/immunologist who specializes in diagnosing and treating angioedema, immune deficiency diseases, asthma, anaphylaxis, food and medication sensitivity, and other related conditions. Dr. Riedl is the clinical director of UC San Diego Health’s U.S. HAEA Angioedema Center, which offers comprehensive evaluations and treatment options for people with all forms of angioedema.
Stroke Care

Stroke care is the medical treatment for a stroke — when the blood supply to part of your brain is interrupted or severely reduced, resulting in the sudden death of brain cells. Learn more about stroke care at UC San Diego Health.

Kunal Agrawal, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspecialty:
Stroke

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8540

Bio:
Kunal Agrawal, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in vascular neurology and stroke treatment. He focuses on the spectrum of stroke care, including stroke prevention, acute ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke, and post-acute stroke care.

Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD
Vascular Neurologist
Director, Stroke Center
Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspecialty:
Stroke
Add'l Language:
German

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist. His expertise includes caring for patients with stroke, cerebrovascular diseases, and those who require neurological critical care. Dr. Hemmen directs the stroke center at UC San Diego Health and was instrumental in establishing the center as the first certified Stroke Center of Excellence in San Diego County.
Stroke Care (cont.)

Navaz Karanjia, MD
Medical Director, Neurointensive Care Unit
Associate Professor of Neurosciences and Anesthesiology

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspecialty:
Neurocritical Care

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6291

Bio:
Navaz Karanjia, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in caring for people with life-threatening diseases of brain, spinal cord and nerves. She is medical director of UC San Diego Health’s Neurocritical Care Program and Neuro-Intensive Care Unit (ICU), which she also founded. The Neuro-ICU team provides around-the-clock expert care, seven days a week, to critically ill patients who may have severe brain injury, stroke or brain tumors, or may be recovering from a neurosurgical procedure.

Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, FAANS
Chair, Neurological Surgery
Professor of Surgery, Radiology and Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Stroke Care, Cancer
Subspecialties:
Neurological Oncology, Endovascular Neurosurgery, Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology
Add'l Languages:
Farsi, Spanish

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

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, MBA, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who specializes in cranial and endovascular surgery. He is chair of the Department of Neurosurgery and professor of Surgery, Radiology and Neurosciences. He provides both open surgical and catheter-based approaches to complex neurosurgical problems, including brain tumors, aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations (AVM) and carotid disease. His vascular training informs his surgical approach to complex tumors in the brain. He is a fellow of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (FAANS), American Heart Association Stroke Council (FAHA), and senior member of the Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery (SNIS).
Stroke Care (cont.)

Brett C. Meyer, MD
Co-Director, UCSD Stroke Center
Professor of Clinical Neurosciences
Medical Director, UCSD Enterprise Telemedicine

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care

Subspeciality:
Stroke

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Brett C. Meyer, MD, is a neurologist at UC San Diego Medical Center, Co-Director of the UC San Diego Stroke Center, and Medical Director for UC San Diego Enterprise Telemedicine. He specializes in acute cerebrovascular disease therapies and technological evaluation and treatment techniques.

Royya Modir, MD
Neurologist
Associate Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care

Subspeciality:
Stroke

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Royya Modir, MD, is a board-certified neurologist specializing in vascular neurology and the treatment of stroke. Her focus is on treatment strategies for stroke prevention and using thrombolytics for the treatment of acute stroke.

Scott E. Olson, MD
Vascular Neurologist and Endovascular Neurosurgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Neurology, Stroke Care

Subspecialties:
Endovascular Neurosurgery, Stroke

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Scott E. Olson, MD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist with additional fellowship training in interventional neuroradiology/endovascular neurosurgery. He specializes in evaluating and treating disorders of the blood vessels of the brain and spinal cord, which can lead to ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke. His expertise includes both medical and endovascular care for individuals with extra and intracranial stenoses, brain aneurysms and vascular malformations, whether congenital or acquired.

J. Scott Pannell, MD
Neurointerventional Radiologist

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Radiology, Stroke Care

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

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
J. Scott Pannell, MD, is a neurointerventional radiologist who specializes in endovascular neurosurgery and neuroradiology. Dr. Pannell focuses on the catheter-based treatment of ischemic stroke, cerebral aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations, carotid stenosis, vascular tumors, and interventional management of pain associated with disorders of the spine (such as spine blocks).
## Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>Agrawal, Kunal ........................................</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christiansen, Sandra C. ................................</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doherty, Taylor .......................................</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Hemmen, Thomas ........................................</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Karanjia, Navaz .......................................</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Khalessi, Alexander A. ................................</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Meyer, Brett C .........................................</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Modir, Royya ..........................................</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>Olson, Scott E. ........................................</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Pannell, J. Scott .....................................</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>Riedl, Marc A. ..........................................</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z</td>
<td>Zuraw, Bruce ...........................................</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>