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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Natalie A. Afshari, MD, FACS
Professor of Ophthalmology
Chief, Division of Cornea and Refractive Surgery

Specialty:
Ophthalmology
Subspecialty:
Cornea

Shiley Eye Institute

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
Natalie Afshari, MD is accomplished as a clinician, surgeon, and a research scientist. Dr. Afshari’s achievement in cornea and refractive surgery and overall patient care has been recognized by her peers in several of the “best doctors” lists, including “The Best Doctors in America” in each listing for the past decade. Furthermore, Dr. Afshari was awarded the academic Achievement Award and the Secretariat Award by the American Academy of Ophthalmology. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has consulted Dr. Afshari’s expertise for matters of safety and efficacy of various ophthalmologic treatments. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has honored Dr. Afshari by awarding her and her collaborators extensive grant support to study Fuchs endothelial corneal dystrophy, a genetic disorder leading to corneal transplantation.

Stuart Brown, MD
Professor of Ophthalmology

Specialty:
Ophthalmology
Subspecialty:
Cornea

Shiley Eye Institute

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
Dr. Brown is world renown for his contributions to basic and clinical research of the cornea, and has many “firsts.” He was the first to initiate studies into the surface characteristics of the component of the pre-corneal tear film, was the first to implicate that collagenase was responsible for corneal ulcers after alkali burn, and was the first to develop a collagen research laboratory for the eye and to initiate biochemical and cell biological studies on the structural macromolecules of the cornea. Dr. Brown was also the first to show that severely alkali-burned cornea can be successfully transplanted, resulting in many patients across the world to see whereas this was once considered a hopeless condition. Over thirty years ago, he developed corneal transplantation in babies born blind from corneal opacities. Since few surgeons in the world feel comfortable with this complicated procedure, infants and children from all over the world come to Shiley Eye Institute for their care.
Ophthalmology - Cornea (cont.)

Weldon Haw, MD
Cataract, Cornea and External Diseases, & Refractive Surgery
Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology
Chief of Ophthalmology - San Diego VAHS

Specialty:
Ophthalmology
Subspecialty:
Cornea

Shiley Eye Institute
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 552-8585

Bio:
Dr. Haw is a Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at UC San Diego School of Medicine & Shiley Eye Institute and Chief of Ophthalmology at the San Diego VAHS. He specializes in advanced cataract surgery techniques, cornea transplantation, and laser/refractive surgery.

Chris W Heichel, MD
Associate Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Ophthalmology
Subspecialty:
Cornea
Add'l Language:
Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
Shiley Eye Institute
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
Chris W. Heichel, MD serves as Associate Clinical Professor of Cornea, Cataract and Refractive Surgery in the Department of Ophthalmology at UC San Diego, Shiley Eye Institute. He is considered a skilled surgeon, astute clinician and a dedicated educator. Dr. Heichel graduated UC San Diego undergraduate with Honors including the Howard Hughes Research Fellowship Award. He completed medical school in Chicago with Honors as a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honors Society. He returned to the University of California, San Diego to complete his residency, where he served as Chief Resident, as well as a Fellowship in Cornea, External Diseases and Refractive Surgery. He joined the faculty at UC San Diego in 2004 where he is currently a board certified ophthalmologist specializing in Cornea, Cataract and Refractive Surgery.
Ophthalmology - Cornea (cont.)

Thao Nguyen, MD
Assistant Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Ophthalmology
Subspecialty:
Cornea
Add'l Language:
Vietnamese

Shiley Eye Institute
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
Dr. Nguyen shares that, though a number of years into her practice, she still finds surgery on the eye interesting as it requires her full attention to detail and precision. "On a weekly basis I witness how eye surgeries provide dramatic results, and, in a relatively short time, make vast differences in my patients' quality of life."
Ophthalmology - Cosmetic Eyelid & Reconstructive Surgery

Don Kikkawa, MD
Chief, Division of Oculofacial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology
Vice-Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology

Specialty:
Ophthalmology
Subspecialty:
Cosmetic Eyelid & Reconstructive Surgery

Shiley Eye Institute

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
Dr. Kikkawa serves as division chief of ophthalmic plastic and reconstructive surgery. This specialty combines traditional studies and patient care as an ophthalmologist with a fellowship in reconstruction and plastic surgery around the eyes. The extensive training uniquely qualifies these specialists to perform delicate surgery on the eyelids, around the eyes, the drainage system, and on the bones around the eye. Dr. Kikkawa finds the field very gratifying; reversing the effects of aging, restoring a normal appearance to disfigured trauma or diseased patients, and eliminating vision-threatening tumors.

Bobby S. Korn, MD, PhD, FACS
Ophthalmologist
Professor of Ophthalmology

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7402

Bio:
Bobby S. Korn, MD, PhD, is a board-certified ophthalmologist. His clinical expertise and interests include oculoplastic surgery, including cosmetic and reconstructive surgery of the eyelid and face; management of thyroid eye disease; eyelid and orbital tumors and cancers; disorders of the lacrimal outflow system; congenital birth defects, endoscopic forehead lifting; bulging or proptosis of eyes; reconstruction of eyelids post cancer removal and after trauma or injury, and skin rejuvenation.
Ophthalmology - General Ophthalmology

Jeffrey Ewing Lee, MD
Ophthalmologist
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology

**Specialty:**
Ophthalmology

**Subspecialty:**
General Ophthalmology

**Add'l Language:**
Cantonese

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**
Shiley Eye Institute

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

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Ophthalmology - Glaucoma

Andrew S. Camp, MD
Ophthalmologist
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

**Specialty:**
Ophthalmology

**Subspecialty:**
Glaucoma

**Shiley Eye Institute**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

**Bio:**
Andrew S. Camp, MD, is an ophthalmologist who specializes in the medical and surgical management of all types of glaucoma in adults and children. His patients typically have cataracts, open angle glaucoma, closed angle glaucoma, secondary glaucoma, or pediatric/childhood glaucoma.

Rigby Slight, MD
Associate Clinical Professor

**Specialty:**
Ophthalmology

**Subspecialty:**
Glaucoma

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

**Bio:**
Rigby Slight, M.D., is a Board Certified Ophthalmologist and acts as Associate Clinical Professor specializing in Glaucoma. Dr. Slight's clinical interests include clinical research in glaucoma and work at the UC San Diego Optic Disc Reading Center.
Ophthalmology - Glaucoma (cont.)

Robert N. Weinreb, MD
Ophthalmologist
Director, Shiley Eye Institute
Chair, Department of Ophthalmology

Specialty:
Ophthalmology
Subspecialty:
Glaucoma
Add'l Language:
Spanish

Shiley Eye Institute
Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
Robert N. Weinreb is a board-certified ophthalmologist and world renowned expert on glaucoma. Dr. Weinreb’s expertise includes glaucoma surgery, cataract surgery, and glaucoma management.

Derek S. Welsbie, MD, PhD
Ophthalmologist
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

Specialty:
Ophthalmology
Subspecialty:
Glaucoma

Shiley Eye Institute
Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
Derek S. Welsbie, MD, PhD is a board-certified ophthalmologist who specializes in treating adolescents and adults with all stages of glaucoma. His clinical focus ranges from monitoring patients suspected of having glaucoma to operating on patients with advanced disease.

Ophthalmology - Neuro-Ophthalmology

Peter Savino, MD
Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology & Neurosciences

Specialty:
Ophthalmology
Subspecialty:
Neuro-Ophthalmology

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Shiley Eye Institute
Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
Peter J. Savino, MD is available for consultation on all potential Neuro-Ophthalmic disorders.
David Bruce Granet, MD, FACS, FAAP, FAAO
Ophthalmologist
Professor of Ophthalmology and Pediatrics

Specialty:
Ophthalmology

Subspeciality:
Pediatric Ophthalmology & Eye Muscle Disorders

Shiley Eye Institute

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-2020

Bio:
David Granet, MD, is a board-certified ophthalmologist who specializes in pediatric ophthalmology and adult re-alignment (strabismus). He is the adult ocular motility specialist for Shiley Eye Institute, and his clinical interests include state-of-the-art adjustable suture strabismus surgery, childhood eye misalignments and disorders, nystagmus, and the role of vision in learning disorders.

Shira Robbins, MD, FAAO, FAAP
Ophthalmologist
Professor of Ophthalmology

Specialty:
Ophthalmology

Subspeciality:
Pediatric Ophthalmology & Eye Muscle Disorders

Shiley Eye Institute
Hilcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-2020

Bio:
Shira Robbins, MD, is a board-certified ophthalmologist who specializes in the care of children's eyes and treating adult strabismus.
Daniel L. Chao, MD, PhD
Ophthalmologist
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

**Specialty:**
Ophthalmology

**Subspecialty:**
Retina

**Bio:**
Daniel Chao, MD, PhD, is a board-certified ophthalmologist and a vitreoretinal surgeon. He specializes in the medical and surgical treatment of retinal diseases, including diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration, retinal detachment, epiretinal membrane, macular hole, and retinal vein occlusion.

Henry Ferreyra, MD
Ophthalmologist
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology

**Additional Language:**
Spanish

**Bio:**
Henry Ferreyra, MD, is an associate professor with the UCSD Department of Ophthalmology at the Shiley Eye Institute. He obtained his medical degree and completed a residency in ophthalmology and fellowship in diseases and surgery of the retina and vitreous from the University of California, San Diego.

William R Freeman, MD
Vice-Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology
Distinguished Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Jacobs Retina Center

**Specialty:**
Ophthalmology

**Subspecialty:**
Retina

**Bio:**
Dr. Freeman is an internationally acclaimed scientific researcher and Director of the Jacobs Retina Research Center, adjoining the UC San Diego Shiley Eye Institute. His work as director of the UC San Diego Jacobs clinical research center enables patients to benefit from the latest advances in diagnostic equipment and therapies. Researchers working in the Center’s laboratories will focus on advancing promising therapies for macular degeneration, tumors, inherited retinal disease, retinal detachment, macular holes, and other important retinal diseases.
Michael Goldbaum, MD
Professor in Residence Co-Director, Retina Division
Professor at UCSD School of Medicine

Specialty:
Ophthalmology

Subspecialty:
Retina

Add'l Language:
Italian

Shiley Eye Institute

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
In 1996, Dr. Goldbaum published a report on the first known case of a newborn with E-Coli Endophthalmitis, resulting in inflammation of the internal structures of the tissues in the eyeball. Dr. Goldbaum’s breakthrough in treatment for macular hole was featured in 1998 issues of Ocular Surgery News and the journal, Ophthalmology. The technique using silicone oil has the potential of greatly altering the treatment of macular holes worldwide.

Eric D. Nudleman, MD, PhD
Ophthalmologist
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

Specialty:
Ophthalmology

Subspecialty:
Retina

Shiley Eye Institute

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
Eric D. Nudleman, MD, is a board-certified ophthalmologist who specializes in adult and pediatric vitreoretinal diseases. As a retinal specialist, Dr. Nudleman’s expertise includes surgical treatment for diseases affecting the vitreous and retina. These diseases include macular degeneration, diabetic eye disease, retinal vein occlusion, retinal detachment, proliferative vitreoretinopathy, macular holes and epiretinal membrane. Dr. Nudleman also has a special interest in pediatric vitreoretinopathies, including advanced retinopathy of prematurity, familial exudative vitreoretinopathy, Coats’ disease, persistent fetal vascular syndrome and intraocular trauma.
Ophthalmology - Retina (cont.)

Kang Zhang, MD, PhD
Ophthalmologist
Professor of Ophthalmology
Chief, Ophthalmic Genetics

Specialty:
Ophthalmology

Subspecialty:
Retina

Add'l Language:
Chinese

Shiley Eye Institute

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-6290

Bio:
Kang Zhang, MD, PhD, is a board-certified ophthalmologist whose expertise is in treating age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy (i.e. a diabetes complication that affects the eyes) and inherited retinal degeneration. Dr. Zhang is chief of Ophthalmic Genetics at UC San Diego Health's Shiley Eye Institute, a program dedicated to the assessment and treatment of genetic eye diseases.
Psychology

Kriston B. Schellinger, PhD
Psychologist

**Specialty:**
Psychology

**La Jolla - Genesee Avenue**
**Scripps Ranch - Mira Mesa Blvd**

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

**Bio:**
Kriston Schellinger, PhD, is a licensed clinical psychologist who provides care for mental health concerns in the family medicine setting. She treats individuals of all ages for mental health issues such as depression, anxiety and substance use disorders, or other behavioral changes.
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