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.

**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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[health.ucsd.edu](http://health.ucsd.edu) | Patient Access **800-926-8273** | Physician Access **855-543-0555**
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Pathology

Pathology is the study of the nature, origin, cause and progress of a disease. Learn more about [pathology](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health System.

Elizabeth S. Allen, MD
Pathologist
Assistant Professor of Pathology

**Specialties:**
Pathology, Hematology/Blood Diseases

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

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

**Bio:**
Elizabeth Allen, MD, is a board-certified pathologist who specializes in transfusion medicine, a subspecialty of pathology, encompassing blood donation, transfusion practices, stem cell collections and cellular therapy.

Jack Bui, MD, PhD
Pathologist
Associate Professor of Pathology

**Specialties:**
Pathology, Cancer

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices North**

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

**Bio:**
Jack Bui, MD, PhD, is a board-certified pathologist with expertise in tumor immunology and immune function tests. As a pathologist, he studies cells and tissues from biopsies and excisions to diagnosis diseases and define their extent. Dr. Bui interfaces between the cancer research and immunology programs.

H. Elizabeth Broome, MD
Director, Clinical Hematology Laboratory
Clinical Professor

**Specialty:**
Pathology

**Moores Cancer Center**

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

**Bio:**
Dr. Broome has a BS degree in Chemical Engineering from MIT and a MD degree from the University of Pennsylvania. After finishing a residency in Clinical Pathology and a fellowship in Hematopathology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, She became certified in Clinical Pathology with a specialty certification in Hematology from the American Board of Pathology.

Brian Datnow, MD
Professor

**Specialty:**
Pathology

**Jacobs Medical Center**

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

**Bio:**
Brian Datnow graduated in medicine from the University of Witwaterstrand School of Medicine in 1970 and completed his internship in surgery (6 months) and medicine (6 months), at Johannesburg General Hospital in 1971.
Pathology (cont.)

Oluwole Fadare, MD
Pathologist
Professor of Pathology

Specialties:
Pathology, Cancer

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

Bio:
Oluwole Fadare, MD, is a board-certified pathologist who specializes in gynecologic and breast cancers. As a pathologist, he studies cells and tissues from biopsies and excisions to provide a definitive diagnosis of disease and define their extent.

Donna E. Hansel, MD, PhD
Pathologist
Professor of Pathology

Specialties:
Pathology, Cancer

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Donna Hansel, MD, PhD, is a board-certified pathologist and internationally recognized leader in genitourinary pathology. As a pathologist, she studies cells and tissues from biopsies to provide a definitive diagnosis of disease. Dr. Hansel often works with oncologists to develop treatment recommendations for patients. Dr. Hansel has a special interest in urologic cancer care treatment, including bladder cancer, adrenal cancer, kidney cancer, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer.

Steven L. Gonias, MD, PhD
Chief of Pathology
Professor and Chair

Specialty:
Pathology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5966

Bio:
Dr. Gonias is a highly respected clinical pathologist with expertise in the laboratory diagnosis of thrombosis and bleeding disorders. As a researcher, Dr. Gonias focuses on cancer and vascular biology, as well as Alzheimer's disease.

Lawrence A. Hansen, MD
Professor of Pathology and Neurosciences

Specialty:
Pathology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 534-6212

Bio:
Lawrence A. Hansen received his Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature in 1974 from North Central College in Naperville IL. He was granted a Medical Degree in 1977 from Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine in Maywood, IL. Following an internship in Psychiatry at Loyola in Maywood, Dr. Hansen spent 4 years in combined Anatomic and Clinical pathology training, also at Loyola. He followed this with 3 years of Neuropathology residency at Emory University in Atlanta, GA, and then went to UC San Diego for a two year fellowship in Geriatric Neuropathology and Dementia. After an additional year of surgical pathology fellowship at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan, Dr. Hansen joined the faculty at UC San Diego School of Medicine in the Departments of Neurosciences and Pathology in 1988.
Pathology (cont.)

Farnaz Hasteh, MD
Assistant Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Pathology
Add'l Language:
Persian

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Hasteh received her medical degree in 1995 from Iran University of Medical Sciences in Tehran, Iran. She completed her pathology residency (AP-CP) at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan, where she was the chief resident in pathology (2002-2003), teaching and directing residents.

Michael J. Kelner, MD
Director, Clinical Chemistry & Toxicology Laboratory Professor

Specialty:
Pathology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5966

Bio:
Dr. Kelner received his MD from the University of Minnesota in 1981. He completed a rotating internship at UCSF and matriculated into the Straight Laboratory Medicine (Clinical Pathology) residency at UCSD in 1982. He served as Chief Resident in Clinical Pathology from 1984-85, and was awarded the David Jay Epstein Memorial Award for Research Excellence by a Pathology Resident in 1985. He was also honored with Young Investigator Awards from the Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists for three consecutive years. He was board certified in 1985 in both Clinical and Chemical Pathology.

Dzung T. Le, MD, PhD
Director of the Coagulation Laboratory, Associate Director of the Clinical Hematology Laboratory, Associate Director of Blood Bank and Transfusion Medicine
Associate Professor of Clinical Pathology

Specialty:
Pathology

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

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

Grace Y. Lin, MD, PhD
Assistant Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Pathology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Lin received her BS from UC San Diego, and then entered the Medical Scientist Training Program at Northwestern University. In 2000, she completed her PhD in the laboratory of Dr. Robert A. Lamb studying the V protein of the paramyxovirus simian virus 5. She completed her MD in 2002. She then completed her pathology residency (AP and CP) at UC San Diego Medical Center where she was chief resident in 2004-2005, and then also completed fellowships in surgical pathology in 2005-2006 and placental pathology in 2006-2007.
Pathology (cont.)

Jonathan H. Lin, MD, PhD

**Specialty:**
Pathology

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-2743

**Bio:**
Dr. Lin received his PhD in Neuroscience and his Doctor of Medicine in 2001, both from Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons.

Ronald W. McLawhon, MD, PhD

Director, Clinical Laboratories; Division Chief, Laboratory Medicine
Clinical Professor

**Specialty:**
Pathology

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5685

**Bio:**
Dr. McLawhon received his PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Chicago and his MD from Rush Medical College. After receiving his PhD, he served briefly as a Research Associate in Pediatrics at the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., Mental Retardation Research Center at the University of Chicago.

Eliezer Masliah, MD

Director of Autopsy Service
Professor of Neurosciences and Pathology

**Specialty:**
Pathology

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**

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

Mana Parast, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor

**Specialty:**
Pathology

**Add'l Language:**
Farsi

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**

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

**Bio:**
Please contact me with any questions regarding gynecologic and perinatal pathology.
Pathology (cont.)

**Henry C. Powell, MD, DSc**  
Chief of Neuropathology  
Professor

**Specialty:**  
Pathology

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7292

**Bio:**  
Dr. Powell received his doctorate of medicine from the University College (Dublin, Ireland) in 1970. He completed a rotating internship at the Philadelphia General Hospital, affiliated with Jefferson Medical School (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) during 1970-71. He completed a residency in Combined Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at UC San Diego (1971-75) and a Chief Residency in Neuropathology at the Massachusetts General Hospital (1975-76).

**Ahmed S. Shabaik, MD**  
Attending physician  
Professor

**Specialty:**  
Pathology

**Add'l Language:**  
Arabic

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5764

**Bio:**  
Dr. Shabaik is Clinical Professor of Pathology. He received his Medical Degree from The Cairo University Faculty of Medicine in Egypt. After finishing a year of rotating internship, Dr. Shabaik moved to the United States where he finished a year of straight surgical internship and AP/CP pathology residency training. Following residency Dr. Shabaik was a Fellow in Anatomic Pathology at St. John Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis and then a Fellow in Cytopathology at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute of the University of South Florida in Tampa. Dr. Shabaik is certified by the American Board of Pathology in AP, CP and Cytopathology. Dr. Shabaik was Assistant Professor of Pathology at the University of South Florida before he joined UCSD in 1992.

**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.
Pathology (cont.)

Ann M. Ponsford Tipps, MD
Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Pathology

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5764

Bio:
Dr. Tipps is a California native, educated at Pomona College, Claremont, CA (B.A. in Chemistry/Zoology). She received her M.D. at Virginia Commonwealth University/Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, VA, and completed her Anatomic and Clinical Pathology residency also at VCU/MCV. Upon completion of residency training, she returned to California where she was in private practice in a private pathology laboratory and medical director at SmithKline Beecham Clinical Laboratories; and practiced anatomic and clinical pathology at Palomar Medical Center, Pomerado Hospital, and Tri-City Medical Center. She began practicing at UCSD in the Dept. of Pathology in late 2000, and joined the faculty in 2001 as an Associate Clinical Professor.

Mark A. Valasek, MD, PhD
Pathologist
Associate Professor of Pathology

Specialties:
Pathology, Cancer

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

Bio:
Mark Valasek, MD, PhD, is a board-certified pathologist who specializes in diagnosing diseases related to the gastrointestinal system, liver, and pancreas. He studies cells and tissues from biopsies or surgical specimens to investigate these diseases and define their extent.
Rheumatology

Rheumatology is a medical specialization concerned with the study and treatment of rheumatic disease; diseases which are usually caused by inflammation, swelling and pain in the joints and muscles. Learn more about [rheumatology](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health System.

**Harry Bluestein, MD**

**Specialty:**
Rheumatology

**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**
**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6110

**Bio:**
Dr. Bluestein's research interests included the identification and characterization of cell membrane molecules that serve as targets of SLE antibodies and on the role of those antibodies in the pathogenesis of SLE, particularly the neuropsychiatric manifestations. He is now retired as a researcher.

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**Arnold Ceponis, MD, PhD**

Rheumatologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**
**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6248

**Bio:**
Arnold Ceponis, MD, is a board-certified rheumatologist with clinical and research interest in musculoskeletal ultrasound. In addition to long-established methods of diagnosis and treatment of rheumatic and systemic diseases, Dr. Ceponis uses in-office ultrasonography for diagnosis and ultrasound-guided injections of joints and other musculoskeletal structures.

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**Nunzio Bottini, MD, PhD**

Rheumatologist
Professor of Medicine

**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**
**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6248

**Bio:**
Nunzio Bottini, MD, PhD, is a rheumatologist who treats a variety of musculoskeletal diseases and autoimmune conditions, including rheumatoid arthritis and scleroderma.

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**Soo-In Choi, MD**

Rheumatologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**
**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6248

**Bio:**
Soo Choi, MD, is a board-certified rheumatologist who diagnoses and treats autoimmune conditions and musculoskeletal diseases that affect the joints, muscles, connective tissue and bones. This may include conditions such as back pain and muscle strains, and diseases such as osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, gout and lupus.
Rheumatology (cont.)

Gary S. Firestein, MD
Rheumatologist
Dean and Associate Vice Chancellor for Clinical and Translational Research

Specialty: Rheumatology
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6248

Bio:
Gary Firestein, MD, is a board-certified rheumatologist who diagnoses and treats patients with autoimmune conditions as well as diseases of the joints, muscles and bones. These conditions may include rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, gout, chronic back pain, tendinitis, and lupus.

Bonnie Hepburn, MD

Specialty: Rheumatology
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Dr. Hepburn received her MD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and completed her residency training at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine.

Kenneth Kalunian, MD
Professor of Clinical Medicine

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6110

Bio:
Dr. Kenneth Kalunian is the Associate Director of the Center for Innovative Therapy and also a Professor in the Division of Rheumatology, Allergy and Immunology in the School of Medicine at UC San Diego.

Arthur Kavanaugh, MD
Professor of Medicine

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6110

Bio:
Rheumatologist, Clinical Immunologist
Rheumatology (cont.)

Susan J Lee, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty: Rheumatology
Add'l Language: Korean

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6110

Bio:
In addition to clinical practice, Dr. Lee is actively involved in numerous clinical research as well as outcomes research.

Katherine Nguyen, MD
Rheumatologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty: Rheumatology
Add'l Language: Vietnamese

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6248
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-6110

Bio:
Katherine Nguyen, MD, is a board-certified rheumatologist who treats general rheumatology conditions, with a special focus on treating the autoimmune diseases Sjögren’s syndrome and rheumatoid arthritis (RA).

Gregory D. Middleton, MD
Rheumatologist
Professor of Medicine and Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties: Rheumatology, Orthopedics
Subspecialty: Hand & Upper Extremity

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Encinitas - Garden View
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200

Bio:
Gregory D. Middleton, MD, is a board-certified rheumatologist who specializes in the nonsurgical care of patients with joint and muscle pain, particularly those with rheumatic disorders such as osteoarthritis. He takes a comprehensive approach to treating arthritis, pain and autoimmune diseases, and strives to help patients maintain a satisfying and active lifestyle.

Brian A. Pedersen, MBBS
Rheumatologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty: Rheumatology
Add'l Language: Spanish

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Encinitas - Garden View

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6248
Direct Clinic Line - Encinitas: (760) 536-7300

Bio:
Brian A. Pedersen, MBBS, is a board-certified rheumatologist. He diagnoses and treats autoimmune conditions and musculoskeletal diseases that affect the joints, muscles, connective tissue and bones. This may include conditions such as back pain and muscle strains, and diseases such as osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, gout, and lupus.
Rheumatology (cont.)

Abha G. Singh, MD
Rheumatologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Rheumatology

Add’l Languages:
Hindi, Punjabi

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6110

Bio:
Abha Singh, MD, is a board-certified rheumatologist. She diagnoses and treats autoimmune conditions as well as diseases of the joints, muscles and bones, including rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, reactive arthritis, myositis, scleroderma, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE or lupus), vasculitis, gout, polymyalgia rheumatica, and osteoarthritis.
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