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Pain Management

Pain management is the pharmacological, nonpharmacological and other treatment to prevent, reduce, or stop pain. Learn more about pain management at UC San Diego Health.

Farshad M. Ahadian, MD
Medical Director, Center For Pain Medicine
Professor of Anesthesiology

Specialties:
Anesthesiology, Pain Management

Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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

Bio:
Farshad M. Ahadian, MD, is a board-certified anesthesiologist who specializes in pain management. As a pain management specialist, he evaluates, diagnoses and provides comprehensive, multidisciplinary care for a broad range of pain conditions. His areas of expertise and interest include minimally invasive treatments for neurogenic claudication from lumbar spinal stenosis and lumbar discogenic pain; neurostimulation (including spinal cord and peripheral nerve field stimulation); interventional therapies for the head and neck region; spinal diagnostics and therapeutics; diagnostic and therapeutic interventions for joint pain; integrative medicine and medical acupuncture.

Benjamin Beal, MD
Assistant Clinical Professor

Specialties:
Anesthesiology, Pain Management

Add'l Language:
Italian

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

Bio:
Dr. Benjamin Beal is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anesthesiology at UC San Diego. His training includes the treatment of acute and chronic pain via interventional and medication based therapies. His areas of specialty include fluoroscopic guided interventional spine injections, spinal cord stimulation, and ultrasound guided techniques.
Pain Management (cont.)

Lynette Cederquist, MD
Professor of Medicine
Pain Management Specialist

Specialties:
Internal Medicine, Pain Management

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Hillcrest - 4th & Lewis Medical Offices
La Jolla - 8939 Villa La Jolla Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8000

Bio:
Lynette Cederquist, MD, is a hospice and palliative medicine specialist who helps relieve suffering in people with life-limiting and advanced illnesses. As a provider of palliative care, she aims to optimize comfort and quality of life while addressing the psychological, social, and spiritual concerns of patients and their families. Dr. Cederquist currently only sees patients with chronic pain who have been referred to her by internists at UC San Diego Health.

Krishnan Chakravarthy, MD, PhD
Pain Management Specialist
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology

Specialties:
Pain Management, Anesthesiology

Add'l Language:
Tamil

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-3800

Bio:
Krishnan Chakravarthy, MD, PhD, is an anesthesiologist who specializes in multi-modal pain management. As a pain management specialist, he evaluates, diagnoses and treats all forms of pain. Dr. Chakravarthy performs a variety of procedures to treat chronic pain, specializing in dorsal root stimulation therapy, a type of neurostimulation therapy designed to manage pain in areas of the lower body such as the foot, knee, hip or groin; dorsal column stimulation; and peripheral nerve stimulation.

Jeffrey Chen, MD, MHS
Pain Management Specialist
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology

Specialties:
Pain Management, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-3800

Bio:
Jeffrey L. Chen, MD, MHS, MS, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation and pain management physician. As a pain management specialist, Dr. Chen evaluates, diagnoses and treats all forms of acute and chronic pain. His expertise includes conservative treatment of low back and neck pain, non-surgical orthopedic conditions and sports injuries. He is the director of Regenerative Pain Medicine and the associate program director for the Pain Medicine Fellowship at UC San Diego School of Medicine.
Pain Management (cont.)

**Amelia Eastman, DO**
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Specialist
Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health

Specialties:
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Pain Management, Sports Medicine, Osteopathic Medicine

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
La Jolla - 9333 Genesee Avenue
La Jolla - 8939 Villa La Jolla Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6035
Direct Clinic Line: (844) 747-0474

Bio:
Amelia Eastman, DO, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who meets with patients at different types of UC San Diego Health clinics to help with pain issues and rehabilitation. She uses a hands-on approach to diagnose injury and illness and encourage the body’s natural tendency for good health.

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**Imanuel Lerman, MD**
Pain Management Specialist
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology

Specialties:
Pain Management, Neurology
Subspecialty:
Headache

Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Moores Cancer Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-3800

Bio:
Imanuel Lerman, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in pain management. As a pain management specialist, Dr. Lerman evaluates, diagnoses and treats all forms of pain, including acute, chronic and cancer pain. He has extensive experience in ultrasound guidance for interventional pain procedures and interventional headache treatment, teaching and speaking nationally on these subjects.

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**Timothy Furnish, MD**
Pain Management Specialist
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology

Specialties:
Pain Management, Anesthesiology

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-3800

Bio:
Timothy Furnish, MD, is a board-certified anesthesiologist who specializes in pain management. As a pain management specialist, he evaluates, diagnoses and treats all forms of pain, particularly chronic pain and acute, post-surgical pain.
Pain Management (cont.)

Albert Y. Leung, MD
Anesthesiologist and Pain Management Specialist
Professor of Anesthesiology

Specialties:
Anesthesiology, Pain Management

Add'l Languages:
Cantonese, Mandarin

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Albert Y. Leung, MD, is a board-certified anesthesiologist who specializes in pain medicine. As a pain management specialist, he evaluates and treats all forms of acute and chronic pain conditions. Dr. Leung has over 20 years’ experience caring for people with chronic pain, and offers a range of interventional and minimally invasive procedures, as well as medication management.

Nathaniel M. Schuster, MD
Pain Management Specialist and Headache Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology

Specialties:
Pain Management, Neurology

Subspecialty:
Headache

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-3800

Bio:
Nathaniel M. Schuster, MD, is a board-certified neurologist and pain and headache specialist. He sees people with all types of chronic pain, with a special focus on spine pain and headache.

Gregory R. Polston, MD
Pain Management Specialist
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology

Specialties:
Pain Management, Anesthesiology

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-3800

Bio:
Gregory R. Polston, MD, is a board-certified anesthesiologist who specializes in pain management. As a pain management specialist, he evaluates, diagnoses and treats all forms of pain. His expertise includes chronic pain, postoperative pain, cancer pain and spine-related pain.

Mark Steven Wallace, MD
Pain Management Specialist
Chair, Division of Pain Medicine

Specialties:
Pain Management, Anesthesiology

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-3800

Bio:
Mark Wallace, MD, is a board-certified anesthesiologist who specializes in multi-modal pain management. As a pain management specialist, he evaluates, diagnoses and treats all forms of pain, though most of his patients are affected by chronic pain.
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.

**Harry Bluestein, MD**
Rheumatologist

**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.

**Arnold Ceponis, MD, PhD**
Rheumatologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:** Rheumatology

**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.

**Nunzio Bottini, MD, PhD**
Rheumatologist
Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:** Rheumatology

**Add'l Language:** Italian

**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.

**Soo-In Choi, MD**
Rheumatologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:** Rheumatology

**Add'l Language:** Korean

**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.

Monica Guma, MD, PhD
Rheumatologist

Specialty:
Rheumatology

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Monica Guma, MD, PhD, is a rheumatologist who treats a variety of musculoskeletal diseases and autoimmune conditions, including rheumatoid arthritis and spondyloarthritis.

Mark Ginsberg, MD
Rheumatologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Rheumatology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Mark Ginsberg, MD is a rheumatologist with who diagnoses and treats chronic musculoskeletal and systemic autoimmune conditions. He offers nonsurgical treatment for diseases such as osteoarthritis, gout and rheumatoid arthritis.

Bonnie Hepburn, MD

Specialty:
Rheumatology

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

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.
Rheumatology (cont.)

Kenneth Kalunian, MD
Professor of Clinical Medicine

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. 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.

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.

Arthur Kavanaugh, MD
Rheumatologist

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

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 Road
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.
Rheumatology (cont.)

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).

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.

Brian A. Pedersen, MBBS
Rheumatologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Rheumatology
Add'l Language:
Spanish

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Encinitas - Garden View Road

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.

Chelsey Forbess Smith, MD
Rheumatologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Rheumatology
Add'l Language:
Spanish

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

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

Bio:
Chelsey Smith, MD, is a board-certified rheumatologist who treats patients with rheumatic diseases, including rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, and other conditions.
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