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*.

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

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

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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.
Locations

**La Jolla**
La Jolla Emergency
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
9434 Medical Center Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

La Jolla Urgent Care
8910 Villa La Jolla Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Orthopedics Urgent Care
Sports Medicine
4520 Executive Drive, Suite Plaza 1
San Diego, CA 92121

4510 and 4520 Executive Drive
San Diego, CA 92121

8910 Villa La Jolla Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

8899 and 8929 University Center Lane
San Diego, CA 92122

8939 Villa La Jolla Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

9333 Genesee Avenue
San Diego, CA 92121

8950 Villa La Jolla Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

9350 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Shiley Eye Institute
9415 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92093

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
9434 Medical Center Drive
La Jolla, CA 92093

Moores Cancer Center
3855 Health Sciences Drive
La Jolla, CA 92039

Jacobs Medical Center
9300 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
9400 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

Perlman Medical Offices
9350 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

**Hillcrest**

Hillcrest Emergency
UC San Diego Medical Center
200 West Arbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92103

4th and Lewis Medical Offices
330 Lewis Street
San Diego, CA 92103

Medical Offices North
200 West Arbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92103

Medical Offices South
4168 Front Street
San Diego, CA 92103

UC San Diego Medical Center
200 West Arbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92103

**Rancho Bernardo**

Includes Rancho Bernardo Urgent Care
16950 Via Tazon
San Diego, CA 92127

**Encinitas**

Includes Encinitas Express Care (Suite 110)
1200 Garden View Road
Encinitas, CA 92024

477 North El Camino Real
Encinitas, CA 92024

**College Area**

6719 Alvarado Road, Suite 302
San Diego, CA 92120

**Downtown**

Downtown Express Care
203 West F Street
San Diego, CA 92101

**Vista**

910 Sycamore Avenue
Vista, CA 92081

**Sorrento Valley**

4910 Directors Place
San Diego, CA 92121

**Scripps Ranch**

9909 Mira Mesa Blvd, Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92131

**Kearny Mesa**

7910 Frost Street
San Diego, CA 92123

**Chula Vista**

959 Lane Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91914

**Temecula**

31720 Temecula Parkway, Suite 100
Temecula, CA 92592
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Hepatology (Liver)

Hepatology is a medical specialty that incorporates the study of the liver, gallbladder, biliary tract, and pancreas as well as management of their disorders. Learn more about [hepatology](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health System.

Veeral Ajmera, MD
Hepatologist
Medical Director, Liver Transplantation
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**
Hepatology (Liver), Gastroenterology, Transplantation

**Subspecialty:**
Liver Transplantation

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Liver Center: (619) 543-5415
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr. (Liver Transplantation): (858) 657-7728
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices (Gastroenterology): (619) 543-2347

**Bio:**
Veeral Ajmera, MD, is a board-certified gastroenterologist who treats patients with chronic liver disease, including those with cirrhosis. He also has expertise with fatty liver disease and liver transplantation.

Saumya Jayakumar, MD, FRCPC
Hepatologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**
Hepatology (Liver), Gastroenterology, Transplantation

**Subspecialty:**
Liver Transplantation

**Add'l Language:**
Tamil

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Liver Center: (619) 543-5415
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr. (Liver Transplantation): (858) 657-7728
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices (Gastroenterology): (619) 543-2347

**Bio:**
Saumya Jayakumar, MD, is a hepatologist who treats patients with liver disease. Her clinical and research interests include end-stage liver disease, liver transplant and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease.

Tarek Hassanein, MD
Hepatologist
Director of Outreach Services, Liver Transplant Program

**Specialty:**
Hepatology (Liver)

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**

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

**Bio:**
Tarek Hassanein, MD, is a board-certified gastroenterologist and transplant hepatologist who specializes in liver disease. He is focused on the management of viral hepatitis, fatty liver disease, cirrhosis, and care of patients before and after liver transplantation.
Hepatology (Liver) (cont.)

Yuko Kono, MD, PhD
Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist
Professor of Medicine and Radiology

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Transplantation, Hepatology (Liver)
Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation
Add'l Language:
Japanese

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5415

Bio:
Yuko Kono, MD, PhD is a hepatologist with a special interest in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) surveillance, diagnosis, management, general hepatology and liver transplantation. She is an expert in contrast enhanced ultrasound imaging.

Rohit Loomba, MD
Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist
Vice Chief, Gastroenterology
Director, Hepatology
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Hepatology (Liver), Transplantation
Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation
Add'l Language:
Hindi

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5415

Bio:
Rohit Loomba, MD, is a board-certified gastroenterologist. His expertise includes treating and managing many types of chronic liver disease, such as nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), nonalcoholic steatohepatitis, chronic hepatitis, cirrhosis, and hemochromatosis. As a transplant hepatologist, Dr. Loomba works with transplant surgeons in the pre and postoperative care of liver transplant patients. He also directs the NAFLD Research Center at UC San Diego, and leads a multidisciplinary group of investigators to study NAFLD.
Michel Henry Mendler, MD
Gastroenterologist and Transplant Hepatologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Transplantation, Hepatology (Liver)

Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation

Add'l Language:
French

Bio:
Michel Mendler, MD, is a gastroenterologist and transplant hepatologist. He has expertise in performing lower GI endoscopies and percutaneous liver biopsies to diagnose and treat patients with digestive and liver diseases including liver cancer, alcoholic liver disease and hepatitis.

Irine E. Vodkin, MD
Hepatologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Hepatology (Liver), Transplantation, Gastroenterology

Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation

Add'l Languages:
Russian, Spanish

Bio:
Irine Vodkin, MD is a board-certified gastroenterologist with a focus on end-stage liver disease and transplantation.
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 at UC San Diego Health System.

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.

Bonnie Hepburn, MD

Monica Guma, MD, PhD
Rheumatologist

Specialty:
Rheumatology

Add'l Language:
Spanish

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.

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.
Rheumatology (cont.)

Arthur Kavanaugh, MD
Professor of 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:
Rheumatologist, Clinical Immunologist

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.

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.

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).
Rheumatology (cont.)

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.

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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