Physician Directory

health.ucsd.edu
Patient Access: 800-926-8273
Physician Access: 855-543-0555
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.
## Locations

### La Jolla
- **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

### Hillcrest
- **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

### Kearny Mesa
- **7910 Frost Street**  
  San Diego, CA 92123
- **Rady Children’s Hospital-San Diego**  
  3020 Children’s Way  
  San Diego, CA 92123

### Chula Vista
- **959 Lane Avenue**  
  Chula Vista, CA 91914

### Temecula
- **31720 Temecula Parkway**  
  Temecula, CA 92952

### Sorrento Valley
- **4910 Directors Place**  
  San Diego, CA 92121
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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
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
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
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.

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.

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.

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.

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
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.
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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