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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Physician Access Services

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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.
Table of Contents

Endocrinology .................................................................................................................................................. 1
Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric) ......................................................................................................................... 5
Index .................................................................................................................................................................. 7
Endocrinology

Endocrinology is the medical specialty focused on diseases of the endocrine system, including diabetes, thyroid and pituitary disorders. Learn more about [endocrinology and diabetes](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health.

**Schafer Boeder, MD**
Endocrinologist

**Specialty:**
Endocrinology

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**
Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6303

**Bio:**
Schafer Boeder, MD, is a board-certified endocrinologist who diagnoses and treats people with a variety of endocrine conditions. He has a particular interest in diabetes and is a member of the inpatient glycemic control team, where he works with patients to monitor glucose levels, adjust insulin dosages, and maintain long-term glucose control at home.

**Steven Victor Edelman, MD**
Clinical Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Endocrinology

**Add'l Languages:**
German, Spanish

**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-1636

**Bio:**
*Please note that Dr. Edelman is not a Primary Care Physician*

**Charles H. Choe, MD**
Clinical Service Chief - Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism
Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Endocrinology

**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line:. (858) 657-1636

**Bio:**
Charlie Choe, MD, is a board certified endocrinologist. He also holds an active Endocrine Certification in Neck Ultrasound from the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists for performing ultrasound and ultrasound-guided biopsies for patients with thyroid nodules and cancer.

**Vala Hamidi, MD**
Endocrinologist

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

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6303
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-8440

**Bio:**
Vala Hamidi, MD, is a board-certified endocrinologist who treats people with diabetes, disorders of calcium and skeletal metabolism, osteoporosis, pituitary and adrenal disease, thyroid cancer and thyroid disorders. She also provides care in general endocrinology.
Endocrinology (cont.)

**Heather L. Hofflich, DO**  
Endocrinologist  
Professor of Medicine  

**Specialties:**  
Endocrinology, Internal Medicine, Primary Care  

**La Jolla - 8939 Villa La Jolla Drive**  
**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**  

**Contact:**  
Registration and Scheduling: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8000  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-1636  

**Bio:**  
Heather L. Hofflich, DO, is a board-certified endocrinologist and internist. She provides endocrinology and primary care for adults, including preventive care and diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases. Dr. Hofflich is consistently named a “Top Doc” in *San Diego Magazine*’s “Physicians of Exceptional Excellence” annual survey performed in collaboration with the San Diego County Medical Society.

**Patricia S. Juang, MD**  
Endocrinologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  

**Specialty:**  
Endocrinology  

**Add'l Language:**  
Chinese  

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

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-1636  

**Bio:**  
Patricia Juang, MD, is an endocrinologist who sees patients with a variety of endocrine conditions. She has a particular interest in the care of diabetic patients in the inpatient hospital setting.

**Christopher J. Hupfeld, MD**  
Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine  

**Specialty:**  
Endocrinology  

**Encinitas - Garden View Road**  

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (760) 479-5370  

**Deborah Kado, MD**  
Bone Health Specialist  
Professor of Medicine  

**Specialty:**  
Endocrinology  

**Add'l Language:**  
Spanish  

**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**  

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-1636  

**Bio:**  
Deborah Kado, MD, is a board-certified internal medicine doctor who specializes in caring for people with osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease. She directs the [osteoporosis program](#) at UC San Diego Health and sees patients in the Endocrinology outpatient clinic in La Jolla.
Endocrinology (cont.)

Kristen Kulasa, MD
Endocrinologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Endocrinology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-1636

Bio:
Kristen Kulasa, MD, is a board-certified endocrinologist who specializes in diabetes. Dr. Kulasa serves as director of inpatient glycemic control - working to ensure that people who are in the hospital have optimal blood sugar levels during their stay. She oversees the clinical diabetes nurse educators on staff.

Karen McCowen, MD
Endocrinologist

Specialty:
Endocrinology

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-1636

Bio:
Karen McCowen, MD, is a board-certified endocrinologist. She has a special interest in the management of diabetes in pregnancy, technologies for managing type 1 diabetes, thyroid biopsy and thyroid cancer, and pituitary and adrenal diseases.

Mizuho Mimoto, MD, PhD
Endocrinologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Endocrinology

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8440

Bio:
Mizuho Mimoto, MD, PhD, is a board-certified endocrinologist who treats people with diabetes, thyroid disease, osteoporosis and disorders related to the pituitary, adrenal and parathyroid glands.

Jeremy Pettus, MD
Endocrinologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Endocrinology

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-1636

Bio:
Jeremy Pettus, MD, is a board-certified endocrinologist who specializes in treating diabetes. He works with individuals who have type 1 or type 2 diabetes to develop personalized treatment plans which may include healthy eating, exercise, diabetes medication or insulin therapy and blood sugar monitoring.
Endocrinology (cont.)

Tricia Santos Cavaiola, MD
Endocrinologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Endocrinology

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-1636

Bio:
Tricia Santos Cavaiola, MD, is a board-certified endocrinologist. She specializes in treating patients with many types of endocrine disorders, including diabetes and thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal and pituitary diseases.

Gina N. Woods, MD
Endocrinologist and Bone Health Specialist
Associate Professor of Endocrinology and Metabolism

Specialty:
Endocrinology

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-1636

Bio:
Gina Woods, MD, is a board-certified endocrinologist who treats people with osteoporosis and other metabolic bone diseases. She works with individuals to preserve bone health, prevent fractures, and manage osteoporosis care with treatments that may include diet modification, exercise and medication.
Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric)

Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric) makes changes to your digestive system to help you lose weight by limiting how much you can eat or reducing the absorption of nutrients, or both. Learn more about weight-loss surgery (bariatric) at UC San Diego Health.

Joslin Cheverie, MD
Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Surgery, Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric), Obesity Medicine
Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8860

Bio:
Joslin Cheverie, MD, is a board-certified surgeon who specializes in minimally invasive surgeries including bariatric procedures performed on the stomach or intestines to contribute to weight loss.

Santiago Horgan, MD
Surgeon
Professor of Surgery
Director, Center for the Future of Surgery
Director, Center for Fluorescence-Guided Surgery

Specialties:
Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric), Surgery, Cancer, Obesity Medicine
Subspecialties:
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Gastrointestinal Cancers

Add'l Language:
Spanish

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8860

Bio:
Santiago Horgan, MD, is an internationally recognized expert in esophageal disease, weight-loss surgery, minimally invasive surgery and new technologies and approaches for surgery. He performs a variety of weight-loss procedures including gastric sleeve, gastric plication, gastric bypass, and revisional weight-loss surgeries.

Eduardo Grunvald, MD
Obesity Medicine Physician
Medical Director, Weight Management Program
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Obesity Medicine, Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric)
Add'l Language:
Spanish

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8860

Bio:
Eduardo Grunvald, MD, is a board-certified obesity medicine physician. As part of UC San Diego Health's bariatric surgery team, Dr. Grunvald evaluates and manages patients before and after surgery, and helps people long-term with their health and weight loss journey. He also directs the weight management program, which includes nutrition, behavior, and lifestyle support.
Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric) (cont.)

Garth Ross Jacobsen, MD
Director, Hernia Surgery
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Surgery, Weight-Loss Surgery (Bariatric), Obesity Medicine
Subspecialties:
General and Gastrointestinal Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8860

Bio:
Garth Jacobsen, MD, is a board-certified surgeon who specializes in hernia surgery and repairing abdominal wall defects. He has expertise in both traditional and minimally invasive surgical techniques. Dr. Jacobsen's approach considers each patient as an individual. He works with each person to develop the best repair or surgical plan available.
## Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B</th>
<th>Boeder, Schafer ........................................ 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Cheverie, Joslin ........................................ 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Choe, Charles H. ........................................ 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Edelman, Steven Victor ................................ 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Grunvald, Eduardo ....................................... 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Hamidi, Vala ............................................. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hofflich, Heather L. ..................................... 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Horgan, Santiago ......................................... 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hupfeld, Christopher J. ................................ 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Jacobsen, Garth Ross .................................... 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Juang, Patricia S. ....................................... 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Kado, Deborah ............................................ 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kulasa, Kristen .......................................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>McCowen, Karen .......................................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mimoto, Mizuho .......................................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Pettus, Jeremy ........................................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Santos Cavaiola, Tricia ................................ 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Woods, Gina N. .......................................... 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>