UC San Diego Health Physician Directory

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Speech-Language Pathology

Speech-language pathology is the clinical specialty that focuses on evaluating and treating communication disorders and swallowing disorders. Learn more about speech and language therapy at UC San Diego Health.

Liza S. Blumenfeld, MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-S
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialty:
Speech-Language Pathology
Add'l Language:
Spanish

Moores Cancer Center
La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 249-4070

Bio:
Liza Blumenfeld, MA, is a speech-language pathologist with expertise in managing complex voice and swallowing disorders in a variety of patients, including those with head and neck cancer. She is a board-certified swallowing disorders specialist (BCS-S) whose therapeutic approach integrates science and technology within a multidisciplinary care model. She is dedicated to restoring patients’ quality of life while they battle the side effects of cancer treatments.

Lauren Davis, MA, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialties:
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

Bio:
Lauren Davis, MA, is a certified speech-language pathologist who helps individuals maximize their speech ability, language comprehension and expression, social and cognitive-communication skills. She also assesses and treats voice and swallowing disorders. She provides assessment for alternative and augmentative communication (AAC) devices.

Kristen Linnemeyer, MA, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialty:
Speech-Language Pathology

Moores Cancer Center
La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 249-4070

Bio:
Kristen Linnemeyer, MA, CCC-SLP, is a certified speech-language pathologist with expertise in assessing and treating patients with complex voice and swallowing disorders that occur as a result of illness, surgery, stroke, injury, or head and neck cancer. She has a special interest in post-laryngectomy voice and swallow restoration. Linnemeyer is part of the voice and swallow team within Head and Neck Surgery at UC San Diego Health.
Speech-Language Pathology (cont.)

Susan Neese, MA, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialties:
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

Bio:
Susan Neese, MA, is a speech-language pathologist who helps individuals maximize their speech ability, language comprehension and expression, and social and cognitive-communication skills. She also assesses and treats swallowing disorders, which can occur as a result of illness, surgery, stroke or injury. She is the primary speech pathologist at Thornton Pavilion and also helps patients with Parkinson's disease in the neurological rehabilitation program.

Lindsey Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialties:
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

Bio:
Lindsey Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP, is a certified speech-language pathologist who evaluates and treats patients with cognitive communication and swallowing disorders. She has a special interest in helping people with neurological disorders such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig’s disease), movement disorders, stroke, and traumatic brain injury.

Lindsey Unger, MS, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialties:
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

La Jolla - 8929 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

Bio:
Lindsey Unger is a speech language pathologist who helps individuals maximize their speech ability, language comprehension and expression, social and cognitive-communication skills. She also assesses and treats voice and swallowing disorders, and provides assessments for augmentative alternative communication devices.

Erin H. Walsh, MA, CCC-SLP, IBCLC
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialty:
Speech-Language Pathology

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 249-4070

Bio:
Erin Walsh, MA, is a speech-language pathologist, singing voice specialist and lactation consultant. She has clinical expertise in managing a wide variety of voice disorders and newborn feeding difficulties, and a special interest in rehabilitating performers and professional voice users. She is a part of the voice and swallowing team within Head and Neck Surgery at UC San Diego Health.
Stroke Care

Stroke care is the medical treatment for a stroke — when the blood supply to part of your brain is interrupted or severely reduced, resulting in the sudden death of brain cells. Learn more about stroke care at UC San Diego Health.

Kunal Agrawal, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspeciality:
Stroke

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8540

Bio:
Kunal Agrawal, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in vascular neurology and stroke treatment. He focuses on the spectrum of stroke care, including stroke prevention, acute ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke, and post-acute stroke care.

Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD
Vascular Neurologist
Director, Stroke Center
Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspeciality:
Stroke
Add'l Language:
German

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist. His expertise includes caring for patients with stroke, cerebrovascular diseases, and those who require neurological critical care. Dr. Hemmen directs the stroke center at UC San Diego Health and was instrumental in establishing the center as the first certified Stroke Center of Excellence in San Diego County.
Stroke Care (cont.)

Navaz Karanjia, MD
Medical Director, Neurointensive Care Unit
Associate Professor of Neurosciences and Anesthesiology

**Specialties:**
Neurology, Stroke Care

**Subspecialty:**
Neurocritical Care

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

**Bio:**
Navaz Karanjia, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in caring for people with life-threatening diseases of brain, spinal cord and nerves. She is medical director of UC San Diego Health’s Neurocritical Care Program and Neuro-Intensive Care Unit (ICU), which she also founded. The Neuro-ICU team provides around-the-clock expert care, seven days a week, to critically ill patients who may have severe brain injury, stroke or brain tumors, or may be recovering from a neurosurgical procedure.

Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, FAANS
Chair, Neurological Surgery
Professor of Surgery, Radiology and Neurosciences

**Specialties:**
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Stroke Care, Cancer

**Subspecialties:**
Neurological Oncology, Endovascular Neurosurgery, Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology

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

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

**Bio:**
Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, MBA, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who specializes in cranial and endovascular surgery. He is chair of the Department of Neurosurgery and professor of Surgery, Radiology and Neurosciences. He provides both open surgical and catheter-based approaches to complex neurosurgical problems, including brain tumors, aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations (AVM) and carotid disease. His vascular training informs his surgical approach to complex tumors in the brain. He is a fellow of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (FAANS), American Heart Association Stroke Council (FAHA), and senior member of the Society of Neurolnterventional Surgery (SNIS).
Stroke Care (cont.)

Brett C Meyer, MD
Co-Director, UCSD Stroke Center
Professor of Clinical Neurosciences
Medical Director, UCSD Enterprise Telemedicine

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care

Subspecialty:
Stroke

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Brett C. Meyer, MD, is a neurologist at UC San Diego Medical Center, Co-Director of the UC San Diego Stroke Center, and Medical Director for UC San Diego Enterprise Telemedicine. He specializes in acute cerebrovascular disease therapies and technological evaluation and treatment techniques.

Royya Modir, MD
Neurologist
Associate Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care

Subspecialty:
Stroke

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Royya Modir, MD, is a board-certified neurologist specializing in vascular neurology and the treatment of stroke. Her focus is on treatment strategies for stroke prevention and using thrombolytics for the treatment of acute stroke.

Scott E. Olson, MD
Vascular Neurologist and Endovascular Neurosurgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Neurology, Stroke Care

Subspecialties:
Endovascular Neurosurgery, Stroke

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Scott E. Olson, MD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist with additional fellowship training in interventional neuroradiology/endovascular neurosurgery. He specializes in evaluating and treating disorders of the blood vessels of the brain and spinal cord, which can lead to ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke. His expertise includes both medical and endovascular care for individuals with extra and intracranial stenoses, brain aneurysms and vascular malformations, whether congenital or acquired.

J. Scott Pannell, MD
Neurointerventional Radiologist

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Radiology, Stroke Care

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
J. Scott Pannell, MD, is a neurointerventional radiologist who specializes in endovascular neurosurgery and neuroradiology. Dr. Pannell focuses on the catheter-based treatment of ischemic stroke, cerebral aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations, carotid stenosis, vascular tumors, and interventional management of pain associated with disorders of the spine (such as spine blocks).
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