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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City, State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>La Jolla</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4510 and 4520 Executive Drive</td>
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<td>4th and Lewis Medical Offices</td>
<td>330 Lewis Street</td>
<td>San Diego, CA 92103</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

health.ucsd.edu | Patient Access 800-926-8273 | Physician Access 855-543-0555
# Table of Contents

## Neurology
- Dementia ................................................................. 6.
- Epilepsy ..................................................................... 7.
- Headache ................................................................... 10.
- Movement Disorders .................................................. 12.
- Neurocritical Care ....................................................... 14.
- Stroke ......................................................................... 15.

## Neurosurgery
- Complex Cranial Surgery ............................................. 20.
- Endovascular Neurosurgery ......................................... 22.
- Neurological Oncology ................................................ 23.
- Spine ........................................................................... 25.

Index ............................................................................. 27
Neurology

Neurology is the branch of medicine that is concerned with the study and treatment of disorders of the nervous system. Learn more about neurology at UC San Diego Health System.

James B Brewer, MD, PhD
Director of Human Memory Lab
Professor of Radiology and Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 552-8585

Bio:
Dr. Brewer is interested in advanced methods for detecting clinically significant memory impairment. This includes application of recent UC San Diego developments in brain MRI analysis.

Ronald Joseph Ellis, MD, PhD
Neurologist
Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, HIV/AIDS

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3500
Direct Clinic Line - Owen Clinic: (619) 543-3995

Bio:
Ronald J. Ellis, MD, PhD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in adult neurological diagnosis and treatment for patients with HIV or AIDS. He is the only specialist in the neurology of HIV/AIDS in the San Diego area and also receives referrals from throughout California.

Anastasie Dunn-Pirio, MD
Neurologist

Specialty:
Neurology

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-3500
Direct Clinic Line - Rancho Bernardo: (858) 605-4447

Bio:
Anastasie Dunn-Pirio, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who treats patients with general neurology disorders, as well as multiple sclerosis and other neuroimmunological disorders. She is also interested in the neurologic complications of cancer and cancer therapy.

Sean J. Evans, MD
Neurology Core Clerkship Director
Associate Clinical Professor
Mind, Brain, and Behavior Co-Director
Neurosciences Education Committee Chair

Specialty:
Neurology

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
Dr. Evans is a general clinical neurologist with broad experience in the clinical and electrophysiologic diagnosis and care of patients with neurologic disorders. He is the Director of the Neurology Core Clinical Clerkship, Co-Director of the Mind, Brain, and Behavior Core Course, and Director of the UC San Diego Medical Center Urgent Neurology clinic.
Neurology (cont.)

Douglas Galasko, MD
Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
Dr. Galasko is board-certified in neurology, with special expertise in memory disorders, Alzheimer's diseases, and unusual neurological conditions such as dementia with Lewy bodies and frontotemporal dementia.

Jennifer Graves, MD, PhD
Neurologist
Associate Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
Jennifer Graves, MD, PhD, is a board-certified neurologist who treats adults and children. She partners with patients, families and the multiple sclerosis clinical team to provide comprehensive care for people of all ages. Specialty care tracks are offered for children and pregnant women with multiple sclerosis.

Jeffrey H. Gertsch, MD
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Betul M. Gundogdu, MD
Neurologist

Specialty:
Neurology
Add'l Language:
Turkish

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-3500
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-8540

Bio:
Betul Gundogdu, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who cares for patients with neuromuscular disorders such as ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or Lou Gehrig's disease), myasthenia gravis, inflammatory neuropathies and muscular dystrophies. She serves as director of electromyography (EMG) laboratory and electrodiagnostic services at UC San Diego Health.
Neurology (cont.)

Vicente Iragui-Madoz, MD, PhD
Director, Clinical Neurophysiology and UCSD Epilepsy Center
Professor

Specialty:
Neurology

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
UC San Diego Health Links

Chamindra Konersman, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
Chamindra Konersman, MD, is a board-certified neurologist at UC San Diego Health. She provides general neurological care to people with a range of neurologic conditions, with an emphasis on neuromuscular diseases. She sees patients with conditions including, inclusion body myositis, Guillain-Barre syndrome, myasthenia gravis, Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease, periodic paralysis, and all muscular dystrophies.

Revere (Rip) Kinkel, MD
Neurologist
Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3500

Bio:
Revere (Rip) Kinkel, MD, is a board-certified, internationally recognized neurologist and multiple sclerosis (MS) expert. He is devoted to improving the diagnosis and care for people with MS and related disorders such as transverse myelitis; optic neuritis; neuromyelitis optica; autoimmune encephalitis; and systemic immune disorders that affect the central nervous system, including sarcoidosis and lupus. Dr. Kinkel directs the multiple sclerosis program at UC San Diego Health and leads the program's clinical, research, and educational efforts within the Department of Neurosciences.

Stuart Lipton, MD, PhD
Neurologist
Adjunct Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
Stuart Lipton, MD, PhD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in neurodegenerative diseases. A neuroscientist and world-renowned expert in dementia, Dr. Lipton is best known for developing the FDA-approved memantine (Namenda®, NamendaXR®, Namzaric®), the first drug in a novel class of medications used to treat moderate-to-severe Alzheimer’s disease.
Neurology (cont.)

William C. Mobley, MD, PhD  
Chair, Department of Neurosciences  
Specialty:  
Neurology  
Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Bio:  
Dr. Mobley has received numerous honors and awards, among them both the Zenith and Temple Awards for Research in Alzheimer's Disease from the Alzheimer's Association, the Cotzias Award from the American Academy of Neurology and the Christian Pueschel Memorial Award for Research in Down Syndrome from the National Down Syndrome Congress.

David Piccioni, MD, PhD  
Neuro-oncologist  
Assistant Professor of Neuroscience  
Specialties:  
Cancer, Neurology  
Subspecialty:  
Neurological Oncology  
Moores Cancer Center  
Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6346  
Bio:  
David Piccioni, MD, PhD, is a certified neuro-oncologist and board-certified neurologist who specializes in treating primary and metastatic tumors of the brain and nervous system. He also has expertise in treating the neurological complications of cancer and the side effects of brain cancer treatment, such as headaches and seizures.

John Ravits, MD  
Neurologist  
Professor of Clinical Neurosciences  
Specialty:  
Neurology  
Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Bio:  
John Ravits, MD, is a board certified clinical neurologist specializing in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), motor neuron diseases, neuromuscular disorders, and clinical neurophysiology. Dr. Ravits is the director of the ALS clinic at UC San Diego Health and vice chair of adult neurology and the neurological sciences.

Jeremy N. Rich, MD, MHS  
Neuro-oncologist  
Professor of Medicine  
Specialties:  
Cancer, Neurology  
Subspecialty:  
Neurological Oncology  
Moores Cancer Center  
Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100  
Bio:  
Jeremy Rich, MD, MHS, MBA, is a certified neuro-oncologist and renowned physician-scientist who specializes in diagnosing and treating brain tumors, including gliomas (e.g. glioblastoma, astrocytoma, brainstem glioma, ependymoma, and oligodendroglioma) and brain metastases. As part of a multidisciplinary approach, Dr. Rich works closely with neurosurgeons and medical and radiation oncologists to provide comprehensive treatment plans unique to each patient.
Neurology (cont.)

Evelyn Tecoma, MD, PhD
Chief of Neurology, Thornton Hospital
Professor

Specialty:
Neurology

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
In 1991, Dr. Tecoma was recruited to serve as Associate Director of the UC San Diego Epilepsy Center, a busy tertiary referral center, epilepsy monitoring unit, and comprehensive epilepsy surgery program.

Erik S. Viirre, MD, PHD
Professor (Adjunct)

Specialty:
Neurology
Add'l Language:
French

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
Dr. Viirre specializes in neurotology (diagnosis and outpatient treatment of vertigo, balance disorders, and tinnitus). He has been with the UC San Diego Department of Neurosciences since 2006 and the Department of Surgery, Division of Head and Neck Surgery since 1998. A member of numerous scientific boards, Dr. Viirre is also a Research Professor in the UC San Diego Department of Cognitive Science and a research associate of the US Navy Naval Medical Center San Diego.

Mark H Tuszynski, MD, PhD
Professor

Specialty:
Neurology

Jacobs Medical Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Tuszynski is currently conducting research in the fields of Alzheimer's Disease, and Spinal cord injury. He has had more than 120 scientific publications in these areas.
Neurology - Dementia

Jody Corey-Bloom, MD, PhD
Professor Emeritus of Neurosciences
Neurologist

Specialty: Neurology
Subspecialty: Dementia

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 246-1288

Bio: Jody Corey-Bloom, MD, PhD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in dementia and neurodegenerative conditions associated with Alzheimer’s disease, Huntington’s disease and multiple sclerosis. She has more than 20 years of experience treating multiple sclerosis and has cared for individuals with the most difficult cases and those with limited means.

Shauna Yuan, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor

Specialty: Neurology
Subspecialty: Dementia
Add'l Language: Mandarin

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio: Shauna Yuan, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in caring for patients with memory disorders and dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease, Frontotemporal dementia, Lewy body dementia and Parkinson’s disease.

Gabriel Léger, MD
Neurologist

Specialty: Neurology
Subspecialty: Dementia
Add'l Language: French

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio: Gabriel Léger, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders. He has expertise in the diagnosis and treatment of atypical or focal dementias, including frontotemporal dementia (FTD), primary progressive aphasia, posterior cortical atrophy, and dementia with Lewy bodies including Parkinson’s disease dementia.
Neurology - Epilepsy

Leena Raj Kansal, MD
Neurologist
Associate Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Subspecialty:
Epilepsy

Add'l Language:
Spanish

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-3500

Bio:
Leena Kansal, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in epilepsy. Her care focuses on the evaluation and treatment people with recurrent seizures and seizure disorders.

Olivia Kim McManus, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Subspecialty:
Epilepsy

Add'l Languages:
Korean, Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center

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

Bio:
Olivia Kim McManus, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in treating infants, children, and adolescents with neurological disorders, especially epilepsy and medically refractory epilepsy (when the condition does not respond to medication). Her expertise includes clinical neurophysiology and epilepsy surgery, i.e. invasive intracranial electroencephalography (EEG) monitoring and intraoperative electrocorticography.
Neurology - Epilepsy (cont.)

David J. Lee, MD, PhD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Subspecialty:
Epilepsy

Add'l Language:
Korean

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-8540
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-3500

Bio:
David J. Lee, MD, PhD, is a board-certified neurologist who treats seizures and epilepsy, including epilepsy that does not respond to medication.

Jerry J. Shih, MD
Director, Epilepsy Center
Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Subspecialty:
Epilepsy

Add'l Language:
Mandarin

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Jerry Shih, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in diagnosing and treating people with epilepsy. He directs UC San Diego Health’s Level 4 Epilepsy Center, which provides the highest level of care to people with epilepsy and other seizure disorders, and is the only nationally designated epilepsy center in the region. The Comprehensive Epilepsy Program offers state-of-the-art neurodiagnostic monitoring and neuroimaging for diagnosing complex epilepsy conditions, and advanced medical and surgical treatment options. Dr. Shih’s expertise also includes managing the care of patients with refractory epilepsy, or seizures that are not controlled with medications.
Neurology - Epilepsy (cont.)

June Yoshii-Contreras, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology
Subspecialty:
Epilepsy
Add'l Language:
Spanish

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-8540
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-3500

Bio:
June Yoshii-Contreras, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in diagnosing and treating people with epilepsy. She takes a holistic approach in helping patients deal with the challenges that are common in the epilepsy population in order to improve their overall quality of life. Her clinical interests involve treating complex epilepsy patients with medications, surgery and implanted neuro-stimulation devices.
Neurology - Headache

Hossein Ansari, MD
Neurologist

**Specialty:**
Neurology

**Subspecialty:**
Headache

**Add'l Languages:**
Farsi, Turkish/Azeri

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

**Bio:**
Hossein Ansari, MD, is a board-certified neurologist and certified headache specialist who specializes in diagnosing and treating headaches and facial pain. He is highly experienced in caring for people with migraines, "cluster" headaches and trigeminal neuralgia.

Suzan Khoromi, MD
Neurologist

**Specialty:**
Neurology

**Subspecialty:**
Headache

**Add'l Languages:**
French, Persian, Spanish

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-3500
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-8540

**Bio:**
Suzan Khoromi, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in diagnosing and treating headaches and facial pain. She is highly experienced in caring for people with migraines, "cluster" headaches and trigeminal neuralgia.

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.

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.
Neurology - Headache (cont.)

Sara S. Siavoshi, DO
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurology

Specialty:
Neurology

Subspecialty:
Headache

Add'l Language:
Farsi

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

Bio:
Sara Siavoshi, DO, is a board-certified neurologist who treats headaches, migraines, traumatic brain injury and general neurological conditions. She performs procedures such as Botox injections, nerve blocks and trigger point injections. In addition, her research interests include migraines and facial pain.
Neurology - Movement Disorders

Dominic Ferrey, MD
Neurologist

**Specialty:**
Neurology

**Subspecialty:**
Movement Disorders

**Add'l Language:**
Spanish

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8540
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-3500

**Bio:**
Dominic Ferry, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in neuromuscular conditions such as Lou Gehrig’s disease (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis [ALS]), myasthenia gravis, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP), amyloid neuropathy and muscle diseases.

Stephanie Lessig, MD
Neurologist
Associate Professor of Neurosciences

**Specialty:**
Neurology

**Subspecialty:**
Movement Disorders

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

**Bio:**
Stephanie Lessig, MD, is a board-certified neurologist with UC San Diego Health and the VA San Diego Healthcare System. She regularly sees people with Parkinson’s disease and other movement disorders, such as dystonia and ataxia. Dr. Lessig specializes in both deep brain stimulation and the administration of botulinum toxin.
Neurology - Movement Disorders (cont.)

Irene Litvan, MD
Neurologist
Director, Movement Disorders Center
Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty: Neurology
Subspecialty: Movement Disorders
Add'l Language: Spanish

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio: Irene Litvan, MD, is a board-certified neurologist and director of the Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center at UC San Diego Health. Dr. Litvan treats and diagnoses individuals with Parkinson’s disease, progressive supranuclear palsy, dementia with Lewy bodies, corticobasal degeneration, multiple system atrophy, Huntington’s disease, essential tremor, and frontotemporal dementias.

Fatta Nahab, MD
Neurologist
Associate Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty: Neurology
Subspecialty: Movement Disorders

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8540
Fax: (858) 657-8549

Bio: Fatta Nahab, MD, is a board-certified neurologist and director of the neuroimaging program at UC San Diego Health’s Movement Disorder Center. Dr. Nahab specializes in neurological movement disorders and their causes, and diagnoses and treats people with essential tremor, Parkinson’s disease and atypical parkinsonism, ataxia, and dystonia. He also provides treatment for people with symptoms such as myoclonus, walking problems and imbalance.

Brenton A. Wright, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty: Neurology
Subspecialty: Movement Disorders

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio: Brenton Wright, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who treats people with movement disorders, including Parkinson’s disease, dystonia, tremor, ataxia, chorea, tics, tardive syndromes and other rare diseases.
Neurology - Neurocritical Care

Cynthia G. González, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Subspecialties:
Neurocritical Care, Stroke

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center

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

Bio:
Cynthia Gonzalez, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who takes care of patients with life-threatening neurological and neurosurgical illnesses such as massive stroke, subarachnoid hemorrhage, intracerebral hemorrhage, subdural hemorrhage, intraventricular hemorrhage, brain tumors, brain trauma, status epilepticus (severe epilepsy), nerve and muscle diseases, spinal cord disorders and the cardiopulmonary complications of brain injury.

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

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care

Subspeciality:
Neurocritical Care

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6291

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.

Jamie Labuzetta, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Subspeciality:
Neurocritical Care

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6291

Bio:
Jamie Labuzetta, MD, is a board-certified neurologist and neurocritical care specialist who treats patients with acute neurological emergencies requiring intensive care. These patients may have severe brain injury, stroke or brain tumors, or are recovering from a neurosurgical procedure.
Neurology - Stroke

Kunal Agrawal, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology
Subspecialty:
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.

Cynthia G. González, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology
Subspecialties:
Neurocritical Care, Stroke
Add'l Language:
Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center

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

Bio:
Cynthia Gonzalez, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who takes care of patients with life-threatening neurological and neurosurgical illnesses such as massive stroke, subarachnoid hemorrhage, intracerebral hemorrhage, subdural hemorrhage, intraventricular hemorrhage, brain tumors, brain trauma, status epilepticus (severe epilepsy), nerve and muscle diseases, spinal cord disorders and the cardiopulmonary complications of brain injury.

Jonathan D. Bui, MD, PhD
Neurologist
Associate Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology
Subspecialty:
Stroke
Add'l Languages:
Spanish, Vietnamese

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Jonathan Bui, MD, PhD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in the development of magnetic resonance techniques to facilitate the diagnosis and treatment of neurological diseases. He cares for both children and adults with neurological diseases and spends the majority of his clinical time focused on neuroimaging and cerebrovascular medicine.
Neurology - Stroke (cont.)

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

**Specialties:**  
Neurology, Stroke Care  
**Subspecialty:**  
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.

Branko Huisa-Garate, MD  
Vascular Neurologist  
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

**Specialty:**  
Neurology  
**Subspecialty:**  
Stroke  
**Add'l Language:**  
Spanish  

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8540  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530  

**Bio:**  
Branko Huisa-Garate, MD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist who specializes in treating cerebrovascular diseases such as acute ischemic stroke, cerebrovascular malformations, vascular dementia and vascular cognitive impairment.
Neurology - Stroke (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
Assistant 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 - 4510 Executive Drive

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.
Neurosurgery

Neurosurgery specializes in prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of disorders which affect the nervous system. Learn more about [neurosurgery](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health System.

**David Barba, MD, FAANS**  
Neurosurgeon  
Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Neurosurgery, Surgery  
**Add'l Language:**  
Spanish

**La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive**

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

**Bio:**  
David Barba, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon focusing on surgical treatment of people with epilepsy and movement disorders.

**Hal Meltzer, MD**  
Associate Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Neurosurgery, Surgery

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**

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

**Bio:**  
Dr. Meltzer is a board-certified neurosurgeon who specializes in pediatric neurosurgery and performs the majority of his procedures at Rady Children’s Hospital San Diego. His clinical interests span all of pediatric neurosurgery and include endoscopic treatment of craniosynostoses.

**Michael Levy, MD, PhD**  
Chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery  
Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Neurosurgery, Surgery

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

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

**Bio:**  
Michael Levy, MD, PhD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon at UC San Diego Health and chief of pediatric neurosurgery at Rady Children’s Hospital San Diego. Dr. Levy's primary surgical interests are in pediatric and vascular neurosurgery.

**J. Scott Pannell, MD**  
Neurointerventional Radiologist

**Specialties:**  
Neurosurgery, Radiology, Stroke Care

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

**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.
Neurosurgery (cont.)

Hoi Sang U, MD
Neurosurgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 471-0798
Fax: (619) 471-3931

Bio:
Hoi Sang U, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who is an internationally recognized specialist in the treatment of vascular anomalies known as AVMs. Patients have traveled to UCSD from as far away as Australia, Hong Kong, the Sultanate of Brunei, Africa and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to take advantage of his expertise.
Neurosurgery - Complex Cranial Surgery

Sunil Jeswani, MD
Neurosurgeon

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Complex Cranial Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Spine

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Sunil Jeswani, MD, is a neurosurgeon who treats people with cranial and spinal problems. He performs surgery for brain tumors, pituitary tumors, skull base tumors, stereotactic radiosurgery, hydrocephalus, and trigeminal neuralgia. He also does minimally invasive spinal surgery and treats spinal conditions such as degenerative disease, tumors, scoliosis and spinal trauma.

Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, FAANS
Director of Neurovascular Surgery
Chair of Neurosurgery
Associate Professor of Surgery 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 - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who specializes in cranial and endovascular surgery. He is chair of the Department of Neurosurgery and director of endovascular neurosurgery. 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 Neurointerventional Surgery (SNIS).
Neurosurgery - Complex Cranial Surgery (cont.)

Marc S. Schwartz, MD
Neurosurgeon

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Neurological Oncology

Moores Cancer Center
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (619) 543-5540
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices: (858) 657-8590
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Marc Schwartz, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who is an internationally renowned expert on the treatment of patients with acoustic neuromas, skull base tumors, and neurofibromatosis type 2 (NF2). He is also the recognized neurosurgical leader in the field of auditory brainstem implants. In addition, Dr. Schwartz treats complex cranial problems, meningiomas, brain tumors, pituitary tumors, cranial nerve disorders, and intradural spine tumors.
Neurosurgery - Endovascular Neurosurgery

Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, FAANS
Director of Neurovascular Surgery
Chair of Neurosurgery
Associate Professor of Surgery 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 - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who specializes in cranial and endovascular surgery. He is chair of the Department of Neurosurgery and director of endovascular neurosurgery. 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 NeuroInterventional Surgery (SNIS).

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

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Neurology, Stroke Care

Subspecialties:
Endovascular Neurosurgery, Stroke

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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.
Neurosurgery - Neurological Oncology

John Alksne, MD
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer
Subspecialties:
Neurological Oncology, Neurological Oncology

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

Bio:
John F. Alksne, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who focuses on the care of patients with neurological conditions such as trigeminal neuralgia (tic dolorous/facial pain), facial tic, glossopharyngeal neuralgia, and acoustic neuroma.

Joseph D Ciacci, MD
Neurosurgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer
Subspecialties:
Neurological Oncology, Neurological Oncology

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Joseph Ciacci, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon with extensive experience in neuro-oncology of the spine and brain. Dr. Ciacci's primary interests are tumors of the spine and brain, complex spinal reconstruction, and stereotactic radiosurgery, a form of radiation therapy that focuses high-power energy on a small area of the body.

Sunil Jeswani, MD
Neurosurgeon

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery
Subspecialties:
Complex Cranial Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Spine
Add'l Language:
Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Sunil Jeswani, MD, is a neurosurgeon who treats people with cranial and spinal problems. He performs surgery for brain tumors, pituitary tumors, skull base tumors, stereotactic radiosurgery, hydrocephalus, and trigeminal neuralgia. He also does minimally invasive spinal surgery and treats spinal conditions such as degenerative disease, tumors, scoliosis and spinal trauma.
Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, FAANS
Director of Neurovascular Surgery
Chair of Neurosurgery
Associate Professor of Surgery and Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Stroke Care, Cancer

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

Additional Languages:
Farsi, Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who specializes in cranial and endovascular surgery. He is chair of the Department of Neurosurgery and director of endovascular neurosurgery. 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 NeuroInterventional Surgery (SNIS).

Marc S. Schwartz, MD
Neurosurgeon

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Neurological Oncology

Moores Cancer Center
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Executive Dr.: (619) 543-5540
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices: (858) 657-8590
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Marc Schwartz, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who is an internationally renowned expert on the treatment of patients with acoustic neuromas, skull base tumors, and neurofibromatosis type 2 (NF2). He is also the recognized neurosurgical leader in the field of auditory brainstem implants. In addition, Dr. Schwartz treats complex cranial problems, meningiomas, brain tumors, pituitary tumors, cranial nerve disorders, and intradural spine tumors.
Neurosurgey - Spine

Sharona Ben-Haim, MD  
Neurosurgeon  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:  
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialty:  
Spine

Add'l Languages:  
Hebrew, Spanish

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:  
Sharona Ben-Haim, MD, is a neurosurgeon who specializes in caring for people with treatment-resistant epilepsy, chronic pain including facial pain and trigeminal neuralgia, spasticity, and movement disorders such as Parkinson's disease, dystonia and essential tremor. She performs deep brain stimulation (DBS) surgeries, including "awake" microelectrode-guided DBS and "asleep" MRI- and CT-guided DBS.

Sunil Jeswani, MD  
Neurosurgeon

Specialties:  
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialties:  
Complex Cranial Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Spine

Add'l Language:  
Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:  
Sunil Jeswani, MD, is a neurosurgeon who treats people with cranial and spinal problems. He performs surgery for brain tumors, pituitary tumors, skull base tumors, stereotactic radiosurgery, hydrocephalus, and trigeminal neuralgia. He also does minimally invasive spinal surgery and treats spinal conditions such as degenerative disease, tumors, scoliosis and spinal trauma.

Lawrence Marshall, MD  
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:  
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialty:  
Spine

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

Bio:  
Lawrence Marshall, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon and an internationally renowned expert in traumatic head injury. Dr. Marshall's surgical interests cover all of neurosurgery but especially diseases of the spine and spinal cord, brain tumors, and peripheral nerves.
Neurosurgery - Spine (cont.)

Andrew Nguyen, MD, PhD
Neurosurgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery
Subspecialty:
Spine
Add'l Language:
Vietnamese

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Andrew Nguyen, MD, PhD, is a neurosurgeon who specializes in endovascular treatments for neurovascular diseases and minimally invasive spine surgery.

Martin H. Pham, MD
Neurosurgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery
Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Spine
Add'l Language:
Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center

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

Bio:
Martin Pham, MD, is a neurosurgeon who focuses on the neurosurgical evaluation and treatment of spinal disorders. This includes adult scoliosis and spinal deformity, complex spinal reconstruction, robotic and minimally invasive spine surgery, motion preservation of the spine, spine tumors, and spine trauma.

William Taylor, MD
Neurosurgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery
Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Spine

La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

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

Bio:
William Taylor, MD, is a board-certified neurological surgeon. His practice focuses on the neurosurgical evaluation and treatment of spinal disorders. He is also dedicated to further developing and refining minimally invasive surgical procedures used to treat spinal conditions and diseases.
# Index

| A | Agrawal, Kunal .............................................. | 15 |
| - | Alksne, John ................................................. | 23 |
| - | Ansari, Hossein ............................................. | 10 |
| B | Barba, David .................................................. | 18 |
| - | Ben-Haim, Sharona ......................................... | 25 |
| - | Brewer, James B ............................................. | 1 |
| - | Bui, Jonathan D. ............................................. | 15 |
| C | Ciacchi, Joseph D ............................................ | 23 |
| - | Corey-Bloom, Jody ......................................... | 6 |
| D | Dunn-Pirio, Anastasie ..................................... | 1 |
| E | Ellis, Ronald Joseph ....................................... | 1 |
| - | Evans, Sean J. ................................................ | 1 |
| F | Ferrey, Dominic ............................................. | 12 |
| G | Galasko, Douglas ........................................... | 2 |
| - | Gertsch, Jeffrey H. ......................................... | 2 |
| - | González, Cynthia G. ...................................... | 14, 15 |
| - | Graves, Jennifer ............................................ | 2 |
| - | Gundogdu, Betul M. ........................................ | 2 |
| H | Hemmen, Thomas ............................................. | 16 |
| - | Huisa-Garate, Branko ..................................... | 16 |
| I | Iragui-Madoz, Vicente ..................................... | 3 |
| J | Jeswani, Sunil ............................................... | 20, 23, 25 |
| K | Kansal, Leena Raj .......................................... | 7 |
| - | Karanjia, Navaz ............................................. | 14 |
| - | Khaleessi, Alexander A. ................................... | 20, 22, 24 |
| - | Khoromi, Suzan ............................................. | 10 |
| - | Kim McManus, Olivia ...................................... | 7 |
| - | Kinkel, Revere (Rip) ....................................... | 3 |
| - | Kornersman, Chamindra .................................. | 3 |
| L | Labuzetta, Jamie ............................................ | 14 |
| - | Lee, David J. ................................................. | 8 |
| - | Léger, Gabriel ............................................... | 6 |
| - | Lerman, Imanuel ............................................. | 10 |
| - | Lessig, Stephanie ........................................... | 12 |
| - | Levy, Michael ................................................ | 18 |
| - | Lipton, Stuart ............................................... | 3 |
| - | Litvan, Irene ................................................. | 13 |
| M | Marshall, Lawrence ........................................ | 25 |
| - | Meltzer, Hal .................................................. | 18 |
| - | Meyer, Brett C ............................................... | 17 |
| - | Mobley, William C. ........................................ | 4 |
| - | Modir, Royya ................................................. | 17 |
| N | Nahab, Fatta .................................................. | 13 |
| - | Nguyen, Andrew ............................................. | 26 |
| O | Olson, Scott E. ............................................... | 17, 22 |
| P | Pannell, J. Scott ........................................... | 18 |
| - | Pham, Martin H. ............................................ | 26 |
| - | Piccioni, David .............................................. | 4 |
| R | Ravits, John .................................................. | 4 |
| - | Rich, Jeremy N. ............................................. | 4 |
| S | Schuster, Nathaniel M. ................................... | 10 |
| - | Schwartz, Marc S. ......................................... | 21, 24 |
| - | Shih, Jerry J. ................................................ | 8 |
| - | Siavoshi, Sara S. .......................................... | 11 |
| T | Taylor, William ............................................ | 26 |
| - | Tecoma, Evelyn ............................................. | 5 |
| - | Tuszynski, Mark H ......................................... | 5 |
| U | U, Hoi Sang .................................................. | 19 |
| V | Vire, Erik S. .................................................. | 5 |
| W | Wright, Brenton A. ....................................... | 13 |
| Y | Yoshii-Contreras, June ................................... | 9 |
| - | Yuan, Shauna ................................................. | 6 |