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*.

**For Patients**

**Make an Appointment**
Whether you need to be seen for an urgent condition today or are looking for a new primary care physician or specialty care provider, we can help. Call **800-926-8273** between 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

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

**Find a Provider**
Search by name, specialty, location or keyword to find the right provider for you.

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

**Physician Access Services**

**Refer a Patient or Request Consultation**
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 92037
  - Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
    - 9434 Medical Center Drive
    - La Jolla, CA 92037

- **Moores Cancer Center**
  - 3855 Health Sciences Drive
    - La Jolla, CA 92037

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

### Encinitas
- **Encinitas**
  - Includes Encinitas Express Care (Suite 110)
    - 1200 Garden View Road
    - Encinitas, CA 92024
  - 477 North El Camino Real
    - Encinitas, CA 92024

### College Area
- **College Area**
  - 6719 Alvarado Road, Suite 302
    - San Diego, CA 92120

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

### Vista
- **Vista**
  - 910 Sycamore Avenue
    - Vista, CA 92081

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

### Scripps Ranch
- **Scripps Ranch**
  - 9909 Mira Mesa Blvd, Suite 200
    - San Diego, CA 92131

### Kearny Mesa
- **Kearny Mesa**
  - 7910 Frost Street
    - San Diego, CA 92123

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

### Temecula
- **Temecula**
  - 31720 Temecula Parkway, Suite 100
    - Temecula, CA 92592
# Table of Contents

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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](https://health.ucsd.edu) 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

**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.

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.

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.

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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