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](http://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

## Encinitas
- **1200 Garden View Road**
  Encinitas, CA 92024
- **477 North El Camino Real**
  Encinitas, CA 92024

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

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

## 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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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 at UC San Diego Health System.

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

Specialty:
Endocrinology

Add'l Language:
Farsi

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:**
New Patient Registration: (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.

Christopher J. Hupfeld, MD
Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Endocrinology

**Encinitas - Garden View**

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

Karl Y. Hostetler, MD

**Specialty:**
Endocrinology

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

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

**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.

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

**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.
Endocrinology (cont.)

Deborah Kado, MD  
Bone Health Specialist  
Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health

Specialties:
Endocrinology, Senior Medicine

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 the elderly. Specifically, Dr. Kado's expertise is in evaluating and treating osteoporosis. She directs the osteoporosis program at UC San Diego Health and sees patients in the Endocrinology outpatient clinic in La Jolla.

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.

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.

Gary Buckholz, MD, FAAHPM
Associate Clinical Professor

**Specialty:**
Palliative Care

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

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7079

**Bio:**
Dr. Buckholz specializes in palliative care, which uses a team approach. The goal of palliative care is to prevent and relieve suffering and to support the best possible quality of life for patients and their families, regardless of the stage of disease or the need for other therapies. As such, it can be delivered concurrently with life-prolonging care or as the main focus of care.

Kyle P. Edmonds, MD, FAAHPM
Palliative Medicine Physician
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Palliative Care

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

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7079

**Bio:**
Kyle P. Edmonds, MD, is a board-certified palliative care specialist. Palliative medicine focuses on improving the quality of life for people with serious illness and their families. It can help provide relief from symptoms, pain, and emotional stress. As part of the Doris A. Howell Palliative Care service, Dr. Edmonds consults with patients who have been admitted to UC San Diego Health's hospitals in La Jolla and Hillcrest.
Palliative Care (cont.)

Jeremy Hirst, MD
Psychiatrist
Associate Director, Patient and Family Support Services, Moores Cancer Center

Specialties:
Psychiatry, Palliative Care, Cancer
Subspecialty:
Psychosocial Oncology

Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-5381

Bio:
Jeremy Hirst, MD, is a board-certified psychiatrist. As part of Patient & Family Support Services at Moores Cancer Center, he treats people who may be experiencing depression, anxiety, insomnia or other psychiatric symptoms that are either a result of the cancer experience or are interfering with cancer treatment. He can provide psychiatric assessments, treatment and medication management.

Kira A Skavinski, DO
Palliative Care Specialist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Palliative Care

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7079

Bio:
Kira Skavinski, DO, is a board-certified palliative care physician who helps relieve suffering in people with life-limiting and chronic illnesses. She provides pain and symptom management, and aims to optimize quality of life for her patients and their families while addressing their medical, psychological, social, and spiritual needs. Dr. Skavinski also assists patients and their families with discussions regarding advance care planning and goals.

Maria Tiamson-Kassab, MD

Specialties:
Psychiatry, Palliative Care, Cancer
Subspecialty:
Psychosocial Oncology
Add'l Language:
Tagalog

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-5381

Bio:
Maria Tiamson-Kassab, MD, is a board-certified psychiatrist and the director of Moores Cancer Center’s Patient & Family Support Services, which treats people who may be experiencing depression, anxiety, insomnia or other psychiatric symptoms that are either a result of the cancer experience or are interfering with cancer treatment. She can provide psychiatric assessment, treatment and medication management.
Kathryn (Kadee) Winters, MD
Palliative Care Specialist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Palliative Care

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7079

Bio:
Kathryn (Kadee) Winters, MD, is a palliative care physician who provides supportive care for people with cancer or other life-threatening diseases. Palliative medicine focuses on improving the quality of life for people with serious illness and their families. It can help provide relief from symptoms, pain and emotional stress.

Heidi Yeung, MD
Palliative Care Specialist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Palliative Care

Add'l Languages:
French, Mandarin

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7079

Bio:
Heidi Yeung, MD, is a board-certified hospice and palliative care specialist who manages pain and other symptoms related to disease or its treatment. She works with a multidisciplinary team to help individualize care for patients and their families.
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