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
Shiley Eye Institute
9415 Campus Point Drive
La Jolla, CA 92093
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
9434 Medical Center Drive
La Jolla, CA 92093
Moores Cancer Center
3855 Health Sciences Drive
La Jolla, CA 92093
Jacobs Medical Center
9300 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
9999 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
# Table of Contents

Concierge Medicine .................................................................................................................. 1  
Endocrinology .......................................................................................................................... 3  
Index ......................................................................................................................................... 7
Concierge Medicine

Concierge medicine is a relationship between a patient and a physician in which the patient pays an annual fee or retainer in exchange for enhanced, personalized medical care. Learn more about concierge medicine at UC San Diego Health System.

William J. Ackerman, MD
Primary Care Physician for Concierge Medicine Patients
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Primary Care, Internal Medicine, Concierge Medicine

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5000

Bio:
William Ackerman, MD, is a board-certified internal medicine doctor. He provides primary care for adults, including preventive care, diagnosis, and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.

Edward David Brown, MD
Primary Care Physician for Concierge Medicine Patients
Medical Director, Concierge Medicine
Clinical Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Primary Care, Internal Medicine, Concierge Medicine

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5000

Bio:
Edward David Brown, MD, is a board-certified internal medicine doctor. He provides primary care for adults, including preventive care and diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.

Tahir I. Bhatti, MD
Wellness Physician
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Concierge Medicine

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Concierge Medicine: (858) 657-5000
Direct Clinic Line - Cardiac Rehabilitation Center: (858) 249-1308

Bio:
Tahir I Bhatti, MD, is a wellness physician at UC San Diego Health’s Concierge Medicine program and Cardiac Rehabilitation and Wellness Center. As an integrative psychiatrist, Dr. Bhatti combines his traditional training with meditation, mindfulness, stress reduction techniques, life coaching, chi kung, t'ai chi, breath work, human design and bio-field therapies. He has been a meditation practitioner since 1991 and t'ai chi instructor since 1995.

Alma Harb, MD
Primary Care Physician for Concierge Medicine Patients

Specialties:
Primary Care, Internal Medicine, Concierge Medicine
Add'l Languages:
Arabic, French, Spanish

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5000

Bio:
Alma Harb, MD, is a board-certified internal medicine doctor. She provides primary care for adults, including preventive care and diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases.
Concierge Medicine (cont.)

Ramona Master, MD
Primary Care Physician for Concierge Medicine Patients

Specialties:
Concierge Medicine, Internal Medicine, Primary Care

Add'l Language:
Gujarati

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5000

Bio:
Ramona Master, MD, is a board-certified internal medicine doctor. Dr. Master treats adults through the concierge medicine program at UC San Diego Health, where she specializes in preventive medicine and chronic disease management. Concierge Medicine is a primary care option that requires an annual fee and offers enhanced services, extended amenities and 24/7 access.
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

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
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 - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6303
Direct Clinic Line - La Jolla: (858) 657-8440

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

Patricia S. Juang, MD
Endocrinologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

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.
Index

A
Ackerman, William J. ............................................. 1

B
Bhatti, Tahir I. ......................................................... 1
Boeder, Schafer ..................................................... 3
Brown, Edward David ......................................... 1

C
Choe, Charles H. .................................................... 3

E
Edeleman, Steven Victor ...................................... 3

H
Hamidi, Vala ......................................................... 3
Harb, Alma ............................................................ 1
Hofflich, Heather L. ................................................. 4
Hostetler, Karl Y. .................................................. 4
Hupfeld, Christopher J. ........................................... 4
Juang, Patricia S. ................................................... 4

K
Kado, Deborah ...................................................... 5
Kulasa, Kristen ....................................................... 5

M
Master, Ramona .................................................. 2
McCowen, Karen ................................................... 5

P
Pettus, Jeremy ....................................................... 5

S
Santos Cavaiola, Tricia ......................................... 6

W
Woods, Gina N. ..................................................... 6