Physician Directory

health.ucsd.edu
Patient Access: 800-926-8273
Physician Access: 855-543-0555
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.
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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

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**
Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

**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

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**
Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

**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**
Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

**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

Bio:

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.

Karl Y. Hostetler, MD

Specialty:
Endocrinology

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

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.

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.

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.

Pathology

Pathology is the study of the nature, origin, cause and progress of a disease. Learn more about pathology at UC San Diego Health System.

Elizabeth S. Allen, MD
Pathologist
Assistant Professor of Pathology

Specialties:
Pathology, Hematology/Blood Diseases

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center

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

Bio:
Elizabeth Allen, MD, is a board-certified pathologist who specializes in transfusion medicine, a subspecialty of pathology, encompassing blood donation, transfusion practices, stem cell collections and cellular therapy.

H. Elizabeth Broome, MD
Director, Clinical Hematology Laboratory
Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Pathology

Moores Cancer Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Broome has a BS degree in Chemical Engineering from MIT and a MD degree from the University of Pennsylvania. After finishing a residency in Clinical Pathology and a fellowship in Hematopathology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, She became certified in Clinical Pathology with a specialty certification in Hematology from the American Board of Pathology.
Pathology (cont.)

Jack Bui, MD, PhD
Pathologist
Associate Professor of Pathology

Specialties:
Pathology, Cancer

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

Bio:
Jack Bui, MD, PhD, is a board-certified pathologist with expertise in tumor immunology and immune function tests. As a pathologist, he studies cells and tissues from biopsies and excisions to diagnosis diseases and define their extent. Dr. Bui interfaces between the cancer research and immunology programs.

Brian Datnow, MD
Professor

Specialty:
Pathology

Jacobs Medical Center

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

Bio:
Brian Datnow graduated in medicine from the University of Witwaterstrand School of Medicine in 1970 and completed his internship in surgery (6 months) and medicine (6 months), at Johannesburg General Hospital in 1971.

Oluwole Fadare, MD
Pathologist
Professor of Pathology

Specialties:
Pathology, Cancer

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

Bio:
Oluwole Fadare, MD, is a board-certified pathologist who specializes in gynecologic and breast cancers. As a pathologist, he studies cells and tissues from biopsies and excisions to provide a definitive diagnosis of disease and define their extent.

Steven L. Gonias, MD, PhD
Chief of Pathology
Professor and Chair

Specialty:
Pathology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5966

Bio:
Dr. Gonias is a highly respected clinical pathologist with expertise in the laboratory diagnosis of thrombosis and bleeding disorders. As a researcher, Dr. Gonias focuses on cancer and vascular biology, as well as Alzheimer's disease.
Pathology (cont.)

Donna E. Hansel, MD, PhD
Pathologist
Professor of Pathology

Specialties:
Pathology, Cancer

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Donna Hansel, MD, PhD, is a board-certified pathologist and internationally recognized leader in genitourinary pathology. As a pathologist, she studies cells and tissues from biopsies to provide a definitive diagnosis of disease. Dr. Hansel often works with oncologists to develop treatment recommendations for patients. Dr. Hansel has a special interest in urologic cancer care treatment, including bladder cancer, adrenal cancer, kidney cancer, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer.

Farnaz Hasteh, MD
Assistant Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Pathology

Add'l Language:
Persian

Jacobs Medical Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Hasteh received her medical degree in 1995 from Iran University of Medical Sciences in Tehran, Iran. She completed her pathology residency (AP-CP) at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan, where she was the chief resident in pathology (2002-2003), teaching and directing residents.

Lawrence A. Hansen, MD
Professor of Pathology and Neurosciences

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 534-6212

Bio:
Lawrence A. Hansen received his Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature in 1974 from North Central College in Naperville IL. He was granted a Medical Degree in 1977 from Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine in Maywood, IL. Following an internship in Psychiatry at Loyola in Maywood, Dr. Hansen spent 4 years in combined Anatomic and Clinical pathology training, also at Loyola. He followed this with 3 years of Neuropathology residency at Emory University in Atlanta, GA, and then went to UC San Diego for a two year fellowship in Geriatric Neuropathology and Dementia. After an additional year of surgical pathology fellowship at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan, Dr. Hansen joined the faculty at UC San Diego School of Medicine in the Departments of Neurosciences and Pathology in 1988.

Michael J. Kelner, MD
Director, Clinical Chemistry & Toxicology Laboratory Professor

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5966

Bio:
Dr. Kelner received his MD from the University of Minnesota in 1981. He completed a rotating internship at UCSF and matriculated into the Straight Laboratory Medicine (Clinical Pathology) residency at UCSD in 1982. He served as Chief Resident in Clinical Pathology from 1984-85, and was awarded the David Jay Epstein Memorial Award for Research Excellence by a Pathology Resident in 1985. He was also honored with Young Investigator Awards from the Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists for three consecutive years. He was board certified in 1985 in both Clinical and Chemical Pathology.
Pathology (cont.)

Dzung T. Le, MD, PhD
Director of the Coagulation Laboratory, Associate Director of the Clinical Hematology Laboratory, Associate Director of Blood Bank and Transfusion Medicine
Associate Professor of Clinical Pathology

Specialty:
Pathology

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

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

Grace Y. Lin, MD, PhD
Assistant Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Pathology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Lin received her BS from UC San Diego, and then entered the Medical Scientist Training Program at Northwestern University. In 2000, she completed her PhD in the laboratory of Dr. Robert A. Lamb studying the V protein of the paramyxovirus simian virus 5. She completed her MD in 2002. She then completed her pathology residency (AP and CP) at UC San Diego Medical Center where she was chief resident in 2004-2005, and then also completed fellowships in surgical pathology in 2005-2006 and placental pathology in 2006-2007.

Jonathan H. Lin, MD, PhD

Specialty:
Pathology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-2743

Bio:
Dr. Lin received his PhD in Neuroscience and his Doctor of Medicine in 2001, both from Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons.

Eliezer Masliah, MD
Director of Autopsy Service
Professor of Neurosciences and Pathology

Specialty:
Pathology

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Pathology (cont.)

Ronald W. McLawhon, MD, PhD
Director, Clinical Laboratories; Division Chief, Laboratory Medicine
Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Pathology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5685

Bio:
Dr. McLawhon received his PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Chicago and his MD from Rush Medical College. After receiving his PhD, he served briefly as a Research Associate in Pediatrics at the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., Mental Retardation Research Center at the University of Chicago.

Mana Parast, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor

Specialty:
Pathology
Add'l Language:
Farsi

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Please contact me with any questions regarding gynecologic and perinatal pathology.

Henry C. Powell, MD, DSc
Chief of Neuropathology
Professor

Specialty:
Pathology

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7292

Bio:
Dr. Powell received his doctorate of medicine from the University College (Dublin, Ireland) in 1970. He completed a rotating internship at the Philadelphia General Hospital, affiliated with Jefferson Medical School (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) during 1970-71. He completed a residency in Combined Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at UC San Diego (1971-75) and a Chief Residency in Neuropathology at the Massachusetts General Hospital (1975-76).

David Pride, MD, PhD

Specialties:
Pathology, Infectious Diseases

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

Bio:
Our laboratory focuses on the role that microbial communities play in human homeostasis, health and disease. We firmly believe that the various microbial components of human ecosystems including bacteria, viruses, archaea, and fungi are important factors that help determine the natural history of their hosts. Furthermore, their interactions with humans or their interactions with other microbial constituents in these communities likely have consequences for human health.
Ahmed S. Shabaik, MD
Attending physician
Professor

Specialty:
Pathology
Add'l Language:
Arabic

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5764

Bio:
Dr. Shabaik is Clinical Professor of Pathology. He received his Medical Degree from The Cairo University Faculty of Medicine in Egypt. After finishing a year of rotating internship, Dr. Shabaik moved to the United States where he finished a year of straight surgical internship and AP/CP pathology residency training. Following residency Dr. Shabaik was a Fellow in Anatomic Pathology at St. John Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis and then a Fellow in Cytopathology at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute of the University of South Florida in Tampa. Dr. Shabaik is certified by the American Board of Pathology in AP, CP and Cytopathology. Dr. Shabaik was Assistant Professor of Pathology at the University of South Florida before he joined UCSD in 1992.

Ann M. Ponsford Tipps, MD
Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Pathology

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5764

Bio:
Dr. Tipps is a California native, educated at Pomona College, Claremont, CA (B.A. in Chemistry/Zoology). She received her M.D. at Virginia Commonwealth University/Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, VA, and completed her Anatomic and Clinical Pathology residency also at VCU/MCV. Upon completion of residency training, she returned to California where she was in private practice in a private pathology laboratory and medical director at SmithKline Beecham Clinical Laboratories; and practiced anatomic and clinical pathology at Palomar Medical Center, Pomerado Hospital, and Tri-City Medical Center. She began practicing at UCSD in the Dept. of Pathology in late 2000, and joined the faculty in 2001 as an Associate Clinical Professor.

Mark A. Valasek, MD, PhD
Pathologist
Associate Professor of Pathology

Specialties:
Pathology, Cancer

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

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

Bio:
Mark Valasek, MD, PhD, is a board-certified pathologist who specializes in diagnosing diseases related to the gastrointestinal system, liver, and pancreas. He studies cells and tissues from biopsies or surgical specimens to investigate these diseases and define their extent.
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