



Dear Colleagues,

I hope this message finds you all in good health and high spirits. I am thrilled to share some remarkable updates from the UCSD Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology that demonstrate our team's ongoing commitment to excellence and innovation in our tripartite mission.

UCSD Gastroenterology and Hepatology Ranks Number 1 in San Diego and 18th Nationally in the U.S. News & World Report

We are incredibly proud to announce that the UCSD Gastroenterology Division has achieved a significant milestone. In the latest U.S. News & World Report rankings, our division is now ranked 18th in the nation. This recognition is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our outstanding faculty, staff, and trainees.

UCSD Gastroenterology and Hepatology Ranked 1 in Research and Education in the U.S. News & World Report

We currently hold the coveted top spot in the U.S. News & World Report rankings for research in Gastroenterology and Hepatology. This achievement reflects our unwavering commitment to advancing knowledge and research in the field, pioneering new treatments, and improving new paradigms for the management of digestive diseases. It also underscores the vital role our division plays in shaping the future of digestive health.

\$2.5 Million Philanthropic Gift from The John C. Martin Foundation

We are thrilled to share that The John C. Martin Foundation has generously donated \$2.5 million to support our efforts in liver disease research and imaging to the UCSD NAFLD Research Center. This transformational gift will empower our liver center to make significant strides in understanding and combatting liver diseases and transform screening for advanced liver disease and liver cancer particularly to those who are underserved and most vulnerable to develop complications of cirrhosis. We are deeply grateful to The John C. Martin Foundation for their philanthropic vision and support.

My vision for our division is to be a beacon of excellence in all aspects of our clinical, research, education and academic mission. We are building a team that provides cutting edge clinical care, conducts ground-breaking basic and clinical research, invests in the training of the future generation of clinicians and scientists, fosters a culture of wellness that promotes justice, equity, diversity and inclusion, and extensive collaborations across silos with other departments, schools, federal agencies, pharmaceutical companies and biotech to advance team science. At UC San Diego, we are uniquely positioned to achieve these goals due to our collaborative staff, trainees and faculty and unwavering support from our leadership team at UCSD.

This summer has been a period of remarkable progress, and we owe our success to the collective efforts of our exceptional team, dedicated alumni, and the enduring support of our stakeholders. Together, we will continue to push the boundaries of knowledge and care in the field of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

Thank you for your continued commitment to UCSD Gastroenterology. We look forward to keeping you updated on our ongoing initiatives and progress in the coming months. Our team GI is thriving and you will see the incredible achievements of our team members through the lens of this newsletter.

Sincere gratitude,

Rohit Loomba, MD, MHSc

Professor of Medicine

Director, NAFLD Research Center

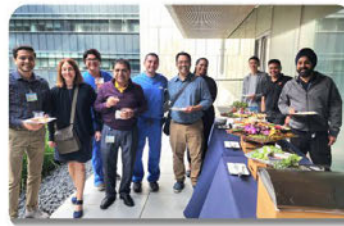
Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

UC San Diego Health



Division Chief Reception Gastroenterology & Hepatology 2023

Rohit Loomba, MD, MHSC



Appointment of Dr. Denise Kalmaz as Vice Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Denise Kalmaz on her appointment as Vice Chief of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. I am confident that her leadership and expertise will greatly contribute to the continued success and growth of our division and wellness of our faculty and fellows. Your support will help ensure a smooth transition and a successful tenure for Dr. Kalmaz in her new role.

Thank you all for your dedication to our division's mission and for your ongoing commitment to providing exceptional patient care, research, advancing knowledge, and training the next generation of clinicians and scientists.



Successful Implantation of Gastric Nuerostimulator



In June 2023, Dr. David Kunkel successfully implanted the first gastric neurostimulator for the treatment of gastroparesis at UC San Diego in over a decade. This FDA-approved device represents the fruitful collaboration between our GI motility program and the Minimally Invasive Surgery team. The patient, who was managed at the interdisciplinary UTC Digestive Diseases Clinic, had been suffering from refractory idiopathic gastroparesis.

This achievement not only highlights our commitment to providing cutting-edge treatment options for our patients but also showcases the strength of our interdisciplinary collaboration.



Congratulations to the Liver Transplant Team on Over 100 Liver Transplants!

We are elated to announce a significant milestone for UCSD Liver Transplant: Over 100 liver transplants this year, setting a new record for San Diego with a third of the year still ahead. This is a significant rise from just five years ago when we completed 41 liver transplants. This year, our Hepatology team will evaluate 300 patients for transplant and continues to manage over 700 post-transplant patients.

We have combined this achievement with outstanding patient outcomes and are pioneering innovative strategies to transplant our patients at lower MELD scores. This collaborative effort, led by our hepatologists, transplant surgery colleagues and the entire multidisciplinary team, highlights our emergence as regional leaders in liver transplantation. We look forward to ongoing success and growth in the upcoming years!”

Pictured are members of our team. We were gathered to create a commemorative video celebrating Dr. Michel Mendler’s retirement.

Meet Our New Faculty

NEW FACULTY – KAY CHEN, MD

UC San Diego
School of Medicine



Kay Chen, MD

Kay Chen, MD is a general gastroenterologist with an array of clinical interests, including gastrointestinal bleeding, cancer screening and prevention, esophageal disease, and inflammatory bowel disease. She also has interests in teaching and the use of technology in medicine.

Dr. Chen received her medical degree from Stony Brook University, as part of an eight-year B.S. / M.D. program. She then completed her internal medicine residency at Boston University, followed by her gastroenterology and hepatology fellowship at Yale University. During her fellowship, she served as a Chief Fellow and received additional training in medical education and physician leadership. She was also awarded the Yale Samuel D. Kuslan award for her clinical excellence.

Outside of work, Dr. Chen enjoys spending time with her family and friends. She likes to garden, read, watercolor, create pottery, and hike.

NEW FACULTY – ANDRES GOTTFRIED, MD, PhD

UC San Diego
School of Medicine



Andres Gottfried, MD, PhD

Andres Gottfried is a gastroenterologist and physician-scientist with a broad research background in neuroscience and immunology. He is currently applying his background in neuroimmunology and inflammation to advancing the understanding of gastroparesis and other gut motility disorders. He is a native of Mexico City, but came to the US to complete his PhD at the Rockefeller University. He then embarked on medical training at Weill Cornell Medical College and complete internal medicine training in New York Presbyterian Hospital. He completed Gastroenterology fellowship at Stanford University and subsequently practiced in Stanford's Neurogastroenterology group from 2019-2023. During this time he was a KL2 Scholar. His clinical and research interests are in gastroparesis immune dysregulation, with a goal to understand the neuroimmune basis of gut motility gut disorders and provide improved diagnostics and treatments to patients.

He recently moved to San Diego with his wife, Juli, who is joining UCSD as an Immunology Associate Professor in the Departments of Pharmacology and Molecular Biology, and is very excited to start the next phase of his career at UCSD.

Meet Our New Faculty

NEW FACULTY – CYNTHIA HSU, MD , PhD

UC San Diego
School of Medicine



Cynthia L. Hsu, MD, PhD

Cynthia Hsu is a gastroenterology physician scientist with a research interest in the gut microbiome and liver diseases and a clinical interest in the treatment of alcohol use disorder and alcohol-associated liver disease. Cynthia grew up just outside of Seattle and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Washington, before moving to San Diego to complete her MD/PhD at UCSD. She continued her internal medicine residency and gastroenterology fellowship training at UCSD in the Physician Scientist Training Program where she completed postdoctoral research training in Bernd Schnabl's lab.

Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her husband and cats, hiking, camping, and visiting all of the National Parks in the US. She looks forward to continuing on as faculty at UCSD and the San Diego VA.

NEW FACULTY – ALEXANDER YANG, MD , MS

UC San Diego
School of Medicine



Alexander Yang, MD, MS

Alexander Yang, MD, MS, is a transplant hepatologist and clinical researcher interested in alcohol-associated liver disease, autoimmune and cholestatic liver diseases, and hepatic manifestations of rare diseases. Dr. Yang completed his medical degree from the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California, where he also completed his internal medicine residency. He completed his gastroenterology fellowship in the University of Maryland/National Institutes of Health Clinical Scholars Program. At the NIH, he worked under the mentorship of Dr. Theo Heller and developed multiple collaborations with investigators from NIAAA and NIAID. He went on to complete his transplant hepatology fellowship at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Yang is board certified in internal medicine and gastroenterology.

Alex enjoys spending time with his family exploring San Diego as well as honing his skills as a portrait photographer. He is grateful and excited to join the Hepatology group at UCSD!

NEW FACULTY – FADY YOUSSEF, MD

UC San Diego
School of Medicine



Fady F. Youssef, MD

Fady Youssef completed medical school at Saint Louis University School of Medicine and Internal Medicine residency, Gastroenterology fellowship, and Interventional Endoscopy training at UC San Diego. He is joining the Jennifer Moreno Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and UC San Diego Health in July 2023. His research interests including pancreatic cysts and early detection of pancreatic cancer.

Meet Our New Preceptors

NEW ADVANCED ESOPHAGEAL PRECEPTOR – ERIC LOW, MD , PhD

UC San Diego
School of Medicine



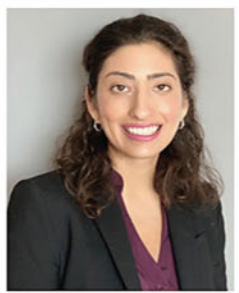
Eric Low, MD, PhD

Eric Low, MD MPH is the new advanced esophageal fellow and an aspiring physician scientist with an interest in esophageal motility disorders and eosinophilic esophagitis. Eric received his masters in public health from the University of Loma Linda. He received his medical degree from the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. He completed Internal Medicine residency as well as GI fellowship and a GI Chief year at the University of California, San Diego, which included 2 years of protected research time on a National Institute of Health post-doctoral training grant. Eric's research as a GI fellow resulted several first author publications and several awards of distinction. Notably he was awarded the ACG Governor's award for Excellence in Research. During this upcoming advanced esophageal year, Dr. Low will begin developing a dedicated EoE-focused clinic at the UCSD, working with Dr. Rena Yadlapati as well as Dr. Seema Aceves and other collaborators at Rady Children's hospital, and have protected time for research. Eric plans to submit a career development award this year to kick start his career as a physician scientist.

Outside of work, Eric enjoys hiking, biking, surfing, and hanging out at the beach with his wife and son. His three favorite things about San Diego are the waves, fish tacos, and the Padres. He is excited to join UCSD GI team and continue learning all there is to know about the esophagus!

NEW ADVANCED IBD PRECEPTOR – ANKITA TIRATH, MD

UC San Diego
School of Medicine



Ankita Tirath, MD

Ankita Tirath, MD is excited to join UCSD as the advanced Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD) fellow. Originally from Atlanta, GA, she completed her internal medicine residency and gastroenterology fellowships at Washington University in Saint Louis. She is looking forward to building an IBD based clinical practice in the future.

Outside of work, she likes to spend time with her husband and toddler, explore new cities, and curl up with a good book.

Incoming Fellows
**2023
GI
FELLOWS**

 Juliana da Silva University of Chicago CLINICAL	 Kurren Mehta Duke CLINICAL	
 Kelly Torosian UCSD CLINICAL	 Harrison Penrose UCSD RESEARCH	 Srishti Saha UTSW RESEARCH

2023 GI Fellow Graduates



CONGRATULATIONS

Jesus Dominguez, MD
Zach Gitto, MD
Donald Goens, MD
Cynthia Hsu, MD, PhD
Eric Low, MD

Kaiser Maryland
Univ of South Carolina
Kaiser San Diego
UC San Diego Faculty
UC San Diego Advanced
Esophageal Preceptor

Faculty Spotlight: Debanjan Dhar



Dr. Debanjan Dhar earned his Bachelor of Science degree with 'Honors' and Master of Science degree from the University of Calcutta, India, where he ranked the top in the university. In 2003, he joined the Core Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences at the Saint Louis University School of Medicine where his thesis research focused on adenovirus-mediated cancer gene therapy and the effects of the host immune system on the outcome of host-virus interactions. In 2009, he graduated with distinction and subsequently joined Dr. Michael Karin's group as a postdoctoral fellow at UCSD. His work focused on understanding the basic mechanisms of liver cancer initiation and maintenance with an objective of devising new strategies for cancer therapy. He and his colleagues developed strategies to identify liver cancer progenitor cells long before tumors are visible and identify the deregulated signaling pathways that help the cancer progenitors to progress into fully developed tumors.

Additionally, Dr. Dhar elucidated the mechanisms that lead fully differentiated and rarely dividing liver epithelial cells to adopt the phenotype of active proliferating tumor-initiating progenitors.

Congratulations to Dr. Dhar for two R01

Dr. Debanjan Dhar has recently been awarded with two R01s – as described below:

Grant Title: Ubiquitin D as a potential therapeutic target for NASH, HCC and chronic kidney diseases

Period: 08/1/23 to 05/31/28

Agency: NIH/NIDDK

Brief Description: The proposed studies will focus on translating a novel target for the prevention and cure of NASH/HCC and chronic kidney disease (CKD) with the goal of improving cardiovascular disease (CVD) and overall survival.

Grant Title: Dissecting the Intracellular and Extracellular Role of TREM2 in the Pathogenesis of Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis

Period: 08/15/23 to 06/30/27

Agency: NIH/NIDDK

Brief Description: Understanding the basic mechanisms that leads to the initiation and progression of NASH with the goal of identifying novel targets for early detection, prevention and cure of NASH and hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). Specifically, the proposed studies will dissect the role of TREM2 expressing macrophages in orchestrating the progression of fatty liver to NASH, fibrosis and eventually to HCC



Research Highlights



Dr. Pradipta Ghosh’s Grants:

1. The UC San Diego Institute for Network Medicine (led by Dr. Pradipta Ghosh) and the UC San Diego IBD Center (led by Dr. Brigid Boland) were among a team of investigators to receive a prestigious \$ 3.5 M award from [The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust](#) to hunt for high value GPCR targets that could transform the way we manage patients with Crohn’s Disease [*The Druggable GPCR-ome” in Crohn’s Disease*]. [Read more here](#)
2. A \$ 250 K award (UH3 program) for 1 year from the NIH/NCATS for translating novel therapeutics in IBD to the clinic.
3. A \$450K award over three years from the Department of Defense (the U.S. Army) entitled: **“Deciphering Information Transfer Between Coupled GTPase Switches Using Mathematical Modeling.”**
4. A \$200K award for one year from the Padres Pedal the Cause Investigator Initiated Clinical Trial and Team Science entitled: **“Pre-Cancer States and Drivers of Cell Transformation in the Gastrointestinal Tract.”**

Highlights In the News:

- [How Do I Know if My Gut is Healthy?](#) *New York Times* – Feb 2023
- [What Causes Gas Flatulence & Farts?](#) *CNN* – August 2023
- What’s the Word with GERD? *LAist 89.3FM Air Talk* – August 2023
- [What your poop color can say about your health](#) *CNN* – August 2023

New Grants:

Yadlapati NIDDK R03 – April 2023: **Role of Psychological Processes on Symptom Burden in Laryngopharyngeal Reflux.**

Service in Professional Societies:

Yadlapati: Course Co-Director of the ACG Functional & Motility School (January 2023 & August 2023)

High Impact Pubs:

Yadlapati – co-author of the Modern Diagnosis of GERD: Lyon 2.0 Consensus



Dr. Rena Yadlapati

Dr. Ravinder Mittal’s Grants:

1. RO1 grant - **Novel Functional Impedance Methodology to Understand Functional Dysphagia**
2. VA MERIT grant - **Injury and Repair of the Sphincter Muscle**





Updates from the San Diego Digestive Diseases Research Center (SDDRC)

The following new members have joined the SDDRC family. The Center would like to welcome the following new member:

- Li-Fan Lu, PhD

Core Service and Updates

The Human Translational Core is offering access to archival clinical (GI/liver) tissue samples (stained or unstained slides) from the Pathology Department. This service can be obtained by submitting the sample request form located on the Center website, or via email to the Center. If you are not sure how to get started, we can provide consultation in pathology, biostatistics, protocol design, and training. Contact us with any questions: sddrc@ucsd.edu

2023-24 Pilot & Feasibility Grants

The Center is now accepting applications for the 2023-24 SDDRC Pilot & Feasibility grants. We anticipate that 3-4 total awards of \$40,000 each will be made. The deadline for applications is Monday, October 2, 2023, 11:59 pm.

Application details and submission form can be found on the SDDRC website under Pilot Projects ([Pilot Projects 2023-2024 Pilot/Feasibility Grants](#)). For questions, contact the SDDRC Coordinator, Victoria Shokrollah (vshokrollah@health.ucsd.edu), or the SDDRC Pilot/Feasibility Program Director, Dr. Lars Eckmann (leckmann@health.ucsd.edu).

The anticipated start date for the awards is January 2024.

SDDRC Seminars

Monday, September 11, 2023, Leichtag – Conference Room 107
Robert F. Schwabe, MD
Columbia University

Tuesday, October 31, 2023, Medical Education Telemedicine Building (MET) – Conference Room 141
David S. Weinberg, MD, MSc
Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health

Monday, December 11, 2023, Online Only
Barbara Stecher-Letsch, PhD
Max von Pettenkofer-Institute
Ludwig Maximilian University Munich

SDDRC 5th Annual Symposium

The 5th Annual SDDRC symposium will be held on Friday, February 9th from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm at the MET Lower Auditorium. Details including the agenda will be posted on the [SDDRC Website](#).

The SDDRC website contains detailed information regarding upcoming monthly seminars. Please visit our website <http://sddrc.ucsd.edu> for up-to-date information about the Center and its upcoming events. Direct all questions to sddrc@health.ucsd.edu. Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SDDRC>.

As a reminder, if you have used the Center services, please acknowledge the grant in your publications: “The study was supported by the NIDDK-funded San Diego Digestive Diseases Research Center (P30 DK120515).”

SAMARA Study

The NAFLD Research Center, directed by Dr. Rohit Loomba, was recently awarded a \$9.57 million grant by Novo Nordisk to launch the [SAMARA Study](#), an investigator-initiated clinical trial to test semaglutide as a treatment for fibrosis due to NAFLD. Semaglutide is a glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor agonist (GLP-1 RA) that is FDA-approved for the treatment of obesity or type 2 diabetes, conditions that are considered major risk factors for advanced fibrosis in the NAFLD population. This randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trial will enroll 120 patients with obesity or type 2 diabetes who meet non-invasive screening criteria for significant liver fibrosis (\geq stage 2 fibrosis). Unlike other semaglutide trials for NASH, SAMARA is unique in that it will be screening patients for eligibility using non-invasive methods that are applicable and practical in real-world, primary care setting. The study's primary endpoint is improvement in fibrosis, as measured by change in FibroScan-AST (FAST) score. There are currently no FDA-approved medications available for the treatment of NASH. If successfully shown to be both safe and effective in this and subsequent trials, semaglutide could potentially be used to treat millions of patients with NASH and significant liver fibrosis. This trial is also implementing a practical non-invasive screening method for identifying patients in the community who would benefit from this treatment. SAMARA enrolled its first patient this past July at ACTRI. To enable diverse participants from underserved communities to access the trial, there are plans to open additional trial sites through federally qualified health centers in Vista and Riverside counties.

NAFLD TEAM



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Number of publications linked in parentheses for each faculty since January 1, 2023; Please visit their linked pubmed profiles to view additional publications lists

Ajmera, Veeral (12)

1. [Ramipril for the treatment of COVID=19: RAMIC, a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial.](#) Huang DQ, **Ajmera V**, Tomaszewski C, LaFree A, Bettencourt R, Thompson WK, Smith DM, Malhotra A, Mehta RL, Tolia V, Yin J, Insel PA, Leachman S, Jung J, Collier S, Richards L, Woods K, Amangurbanova M, Bhatt A, Zhang X, Penciu OM, Zarich S, Retta T, Harkins MS, Teixeira JP, Chinnock B, Utay NS, Lake JE, **Loomba R**. Adv Ther 2023 Aug 24. doi: 10.1007/s12325-023-02618-7.
2. [Reply to: Non-invasive testing for advanced fibrosis in patients with diabetes with fatty liver disease needs further evaluation of cut-off values.](#) **Ajmera V**, **Loomba R**. J Hepatol Jul 28; S0168-8278(23)05001-8. doi: 10.1016/j.hep.2023.07.022.
3. [Type 2 diabetes, hepatic decompensation, and hepatocellular carcinoma in patients with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease: An individual participant-level data meta-analysis.](#) Huang DQ, **Noureddin N**, **Ajmera V**, Amangurbanova M, Bettencourt R, Truong Em, Gidener T, Siddiq H, Majzoub AM, Nayfeh T, Tamaki N, Izumi N, Yoneda M, Nakajima A, Idilman R, Gumussoy M, Oz DK, Erden A, Allen AM, Noureddin M, **Loomba R**. Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol 2023 Sept; 8(9): 829-836. doi: 10.1016/S2468-1253(23)00157-7.
4. [A prospective study on the prevalence of NAFLD, advanced fibrosis, cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma in people with type 2 diabetes.](#) **Ajmera V**, Cepin S, Tesfai K, Hofflich H, Cadman K, Lopez S, Madamba E, Bettencourt R, Richards L, Behling C, Sirlin CB, **Loomba R**. J Hepatol. 2023 Mar;78(3):471-478. doi: 10.1016/j.jhep.2022.11.010. Epub 2022 Nov 19. PMID: 36410554.
5. [Towards omics-based risk assessment in NAFLD.](#) **Ajmera V**. Nat Metab. 2023 Apr;5(4):534-535. doi: 10.1038/s42255-023-00772-4.

Barman, Pranab (5)

1. [Palliative care and end of life care in decompensated cirrhosis.](#) Miller K, **Barman P**, Kappus M. Clin Liver Dis (Hoboken) 2023 Jun 15; 22(1): 10-13.
2. [Portal vein thrombosis: Before, during, and after liver transplant.](#) Toth JF, **Barman P**. Clin Liver Dis (Hoboken). 2023 Jun 15; 22(1): 14-17.
3. [Many transplant hepatology graduates feel unprepared for first job search: Results from a national employment survey of early career hepatologists.](#) Winters AC, Aby ES, Pourmand K, **Barman P**, Kriss M, Pillai A. Liver Transpl 2023 Jun 14. doi: 10.1097/LVT.000000000000189.
4. [Factors associated with cardiovascular events after simultaneous liver-kidney transplant from the US Multicenter Simultaneous Liver-Kidney Transplant Consortium.](#) Jo J, Crespo G, Gregory D, Sinha J, Xie J, Zhang M, Magee J, **Barman P**, Patel YA, Schluger A, Walters K, Biggins S, Filipek N, Cullaro G, Wong R, Lai JC, Perreault GJ, Verna EC, Sharma P, Van Wagner LB. Hepatol Commun. 2022 Oct 26;7(1): e2108. doi: 10.1002/hep4.2108.
5. [Successful treatment of hepatitis C virus infection in patients on anti-epileptics or mood stabilizers using pharmacokinetic enhancers.](#) Yin J, Hill L, Mansour M, Collier S, **Barman P**. Br J Clin Pharmacol. 2023 Jun;89(6):1891-1895. doi: 10.1111/bcp.15712. Epub 2023 Mar 22. PMID: 36908038.

Boland, Brigid (15)

1. [Metabolic programs of T cell tissue residency empower tumor immunity.](#) Reina-Campos M, Heeg M, Kennewick K, Mathews IT, Galletti G, Lunda V, Nguyen Q, Huang H, Milner JJ, Hu KH, Vichaidit A, Santillano N, **Boland BS**, **Chang JT**, Jain M, Sharma SW, Krummel MK, Chi H, Bensing SJ, Goldrath AW. Nature 2023 Aug 30. doi: 10.1038/s41586-023-06483.
2. [Correlations between gastrointestinal symptoms and endoscopic-histologic disease activity in adults with ulcerative colitis.](#) Tse CS, Nguyen HP, **Singh S**, Dulai PS, Neil J, Le H, Valasek M, Dervieux T, Collins AE, **Boland BS**. Dig Dis Sci 2023 Aug; 68(8): 3254-3258.
3. [Responsiveness to Vedolizumab therapy in ulcerative colitis is associated with alterations in immune cell-cell communications.](#) Hsu P, Choi EJ, Patel SA, Wong WH, Olvera JG, Yao P, Liu YC, **Tsai MA**, Wang W, **Boland BS**, **Chang JT**. Inflamm Bowel Dis 2023 May 26; izad084. doi: 10.1093/ibd/izad084.
4. [The Real-World Effectiveness and Safety of Ustekinumab in the Treatment of Crohn's Disease: Results From the SUCCESS Consortium.](#) Johnson AM, Barsky M, Ahmed W, Zullo S, Galati J, Jairath V, Narula N, Peerani F, Click BH, Coburn ES, Dang TT, Gold S, Agrawal M, Garg R, Aggarwal M, Mohammad D, Halloran B, Kochhar GS, Todorowski H, Ud Din NM, Izanec J, Teeple A, Gasink C, Muser E, Ding Z, Swaminath A, Lakhani K, Hogan D, Datta S, Ungaro RC, **Boland BS**, Bohm M, Fischer M, Sagi S, Afzali A, Ullman T, Lawlor G, Baumgart DC, Chang S, Hudesman D, Lukin D, Scherl EJ, Colombel JF, Sands BE, Siegel CA, Regueiro M, **Sandborn WJ**, Bruining D, Kane S, Loftus EV Jr, Dulai PS. Am J Gastroenterol. 2023 Feb 1;118(2):317-328. doi: 10.14309/ajg.0000000000002047. Epub 2022 Sep 30.
5. [Management of inflammatory bowel diseases in older adults.](#) **Singh S**, **Boland BS**, Jess T, Moore AA. Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2023 Apr;8(4):368-382. doi: 10.1016/S2468-1253(22)00358-2. Epub 2023 Jan 17.

Boland, Clement (4)

1. [Serendipity strikes: How pursuing novel hypotheses shifted the paradigm regarding the genetic basis of colorectal cancer and changed cancer therapy.](#) Boland CR, Koi M, Hawn MT, Carethers JM, Yurgelun MB. Dig Dis Sci 2023 Sept; 68(9): 3504-3513.
2. [Advances in acute and chronic pancreatitis.](#) Strum WB, Boland CR. World J Gastroenterol. 2023 Feb 21;29(7):1194-1201. doi: 10.3748/wjg.v29.i7.1194.
3. [Delphi Initiative for Early-Onset Colorectal Cancer \(DIRECt\) International Management Guidelines.](#) Cavestro GM, Mannucci A, Balaguer F, Hampel H, Kupfer SS, Repici A, Sartore-Bianchi A, Seppälä TT, Valentini V, Boland CR, Brand RE, Buffart TE, Burke CA, Caccialanza R, Cannizzaro R, Cascinu S, Cercek A, Crosbie EJ, Danese S, Dekker E, Daca-Alvarez M, Deni F, Dominguez-Valentin M, Eng C, Goel A, Guillem JG, Houwen BBSL, Kahi C, Kalady MF, Kastrinos F, Kühn F, Laghi L, Latchford A, Liska D, Lynch P, Malesci A, Mauri G, Meldolesi E, Møller P, Monahan KJ, Möslein G, Murphy CC, Nass K, Ng K, Oliani C, Papaleo E, Patel SG, Puzzone M, Remo A, Ricciardiello L, Ripamonti CI, Siena S, Singh SK, Stadler ZK, Stanich PP, Syngal S, Turi S, Urso ED, Valle L, Vanni VS, Vilar E, Vitellaro M, You YN, Yurgelun MB, Zupardo RA, Stoffel EM; Associazione Italiana Familiarità Ereditarietà Tumori; Collaborative Group of the Americas on Inherited Gastrointestinal Cancer; European Hereditary Tumour Group, and the International Society for Gastrointestinal Hereditary Tumours. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2023 Mar;21(3):581-603.e33. doi: 10.1016/j.cgh.2022.12.006. Epub 2022 Dec 20. PMID: 36549470.
4. [Our New President-Barbara H. Jung, MD, AGAF.](#) Carethers JM, Boland CR. Gastroenterology. 2023 May;164(6):1012-1016. doi: 10.1053/j.gastro.2023.02.019. Epub 2023 Mar 28. PMID: 36997444.

Brenner, David (7)

1. [Up-front endoscopy maximizes cost-effectiveness and cost-satisfaction in uninvestigated dyspepsia.](#) Wechsler EV, Ahuja NK, Brenner D, Chan W, Chang L, Chey WD, Lembo AJ, Moshiree B, Nee J, Shah SC, Staller K, Shah ED. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2023 Aug;21(9):2378-2388.e28. doi: 10.1016/j.cgh.2023.01.003. Epub 2023 Jan 13.
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FELLOWS PUBLICATIONS

Krause, Amanda (1)

1. [Quality of life and laryngopharyngeal reflux.](#) Liu K, Krause A, Yadlapati R. Dig Dis Sci. 2023 Sep;68(9):3527-3533. doi: 10.1007/s10620-023-08027-8. Epub 2023 Jul 6.

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2. [MEFIB-Index and MAST-Score in the assessment of hepatic decompensation in metabolic dysfunction-associated steatosis liver disease- Individual participant data meta-analyses.](#) Noureddin N, Ajmera V, Bergstrom J, Bettencourt R, Huang DQ, Siddiqi H, Majzoub AM, Nayfeh T, Tamaki N, Izumi N, Nakajima A, Idilman R, Gumussoy M, Oz DK, Erden A, Loomba R. Aliment Pharmacol Ther. 2023 Sep 11. doi: 10.1111/apt.17707. Epub ahead of print.
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Awards & Recognition

New Member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI)



Dr. Amir Zarrinpar

Congratulations Dr. Amir Zarrinpar on being the newest member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation. He also received the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation Litwin IBD Pioneers Award which supports innovative clinical and translational research projects with the potential to impact the treatment of IBD patients in the near future.

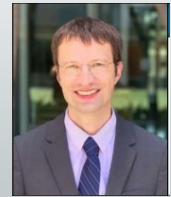
New members of the Association of American Physician (AAP)



Dr. Pradipta Ghosh



Dr. Rohit Loomba

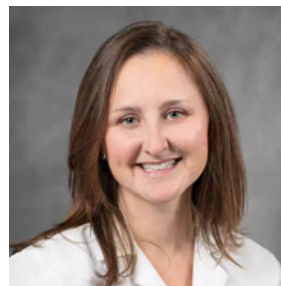


Dr. Bernd Schnabl



Shailja Shah

- Korea Digestive Diseases Week – Invited Presidential Plenary Keynote Speaker
- ACG Postgraduate Course, Annual Meeting – Invited Faculty Speaker
- ACG Postgraduate Course, Southern Regional Meeting – Invited Faculty Speaker
- Pan-American Gastroenterology Conference – Invited Faculty Speaker
- Author on three upcoming ACG Guidelines and two AGA Clinical Practice Updates



Brigid Boland

**New Associate Chief Scientist
of Translational Research,
Crohn's and Colitis
Foundation**

Eric Low - AWARDS

ACG 2022 Governor's Award – Oct 2022
Travel award – ANMS Young Investigator's Forum 2022 – August 2022



Awards & Recognition



Crohn's & Colitis Foundation Walk: Gastroenterology & Hepatology Faculty, Fellows, Staff and Grateful Patients walked to fund groundbreaking research for better treatments and cures for those living with IBD. IBD Center Nurse Practitioner **Angelina Collins** was the featured speaker.



Dr. Laurel Branch

Awarded the Distinguished Fellow of the Year by the Association of Women Endoscopists



Amanda Krause - Awards

- ACG 2023 Outstanding Research Award – October 2023
- Travel award - DDW 2023 AGA Post-Graduation Course Session – May 2023
- Travel award – North American ACG Fellows GI Conference 2023 – February 2023

Service in Professional Societies:

- Course Cop-Director for 2023 AGA Women in GI Regional Leadership – Western Region workshop
- Selected to serve as trainee member on AGA Institute Education & Training Committee



GLOGE – BABY SHOWER FOR LAUREL

Angelina Collins, NP

January 2023, serving as the chair for the Greater San Diego and Desert chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation Healthcare Providers Committee (formerly known as the Chapter Medical Advisory Member)

Faculty, for first Milestones for Advanced Practice Providers, a comprehensive training program in IBD, Cleveland Clinic, May 2023

2023 Take Steps Healthcare Professional Honored Hero of the Greater San Diego and Desert Chapter, Crohn's & Colitis Foundation, June 2023

Faculty, video-based training module on biosimilars for Advanced Practitioner Providers for the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation web site, August 2023

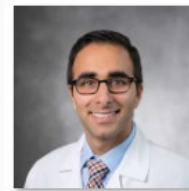
Faculty & Moderator for Scripps/UCSD New Advances in Inflammatory Bowel Disease Conference in La Jolla, September 2023

Awards & Recognition

2023 Academic Review – Promotions



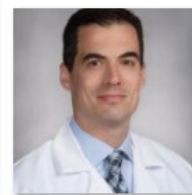
Gobind Anand
(HS) Associate Clinical Professor



Pranab Barman
(HS) Associate Clinical Professor



Michael Chang
(HS) Associate Clinical Professor



Michael Docherty
(HS) Clinical Professor



Joshua Rubin
(HS) Associate Clinical Professor



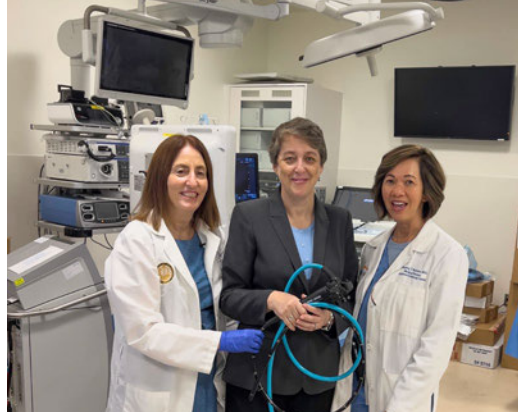
Rena Yadlapati
Professor of Clinical Medicine



Amir Zarrinpar
Associate Professor/Associate Professor in Residence

2023 EVENTS

Association of Women Endoscopists – 6th Annual Interventional Endoscopy Course and Workshop – June 15-18, 2023

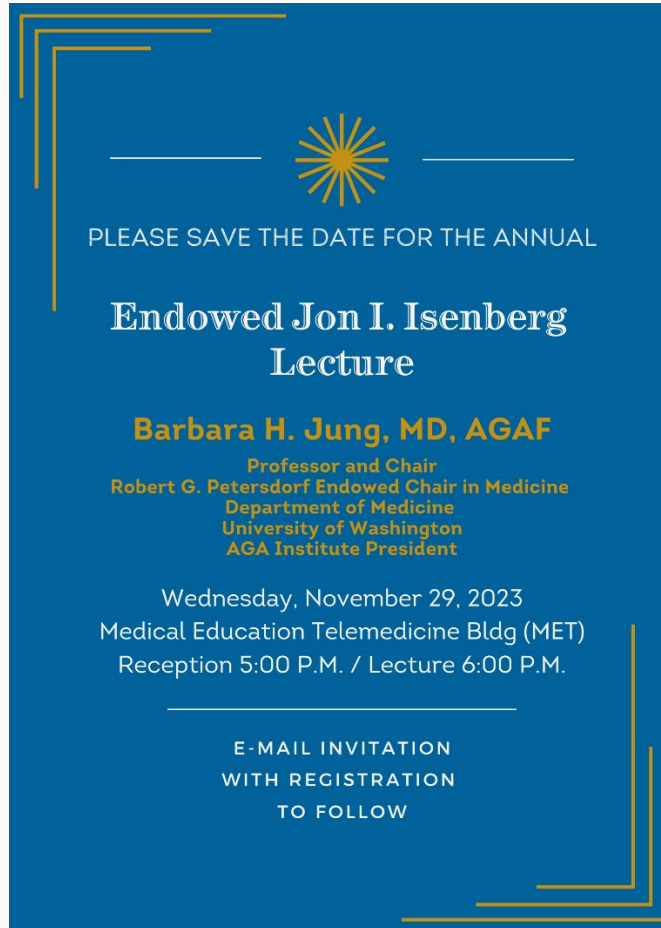


Don C. Rockey, MD – Grand Rounds – August 1, 2023



UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 – Isenberg Lecture



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL

**Endowed Jon I. Isenberg
Lecture**

Barbara H. Jung, MD, AGAF
Professor and Chair
Robert G. Petersdorf Endowed Chair in Medicine
Department of Medicine
University of Washington
AGA Institute President

Wednesday, November 29, 2023
Medical Education Telemedicine Bldg (MET)
Reception 5:00 P.M. / Lecture 6:00 P.M.

E-MAIL INVITATION
WITH REGISTRATION
TO FOLLOW

Saturday, December 2, 2023 – Holiday Party



Save the Date

DECEMBER 2ND, 2023

GI DIVISION
HOLIDAY PARTY

BALLAST POINT BREWING

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, December 4, 2023 – City Wide

UCSD IBD CITY WIDE QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

DECEMBER 4, 2023

Breakout Room Sessions 5:30 – 6:00 PM

General Session 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

The conference focuses on all phases of IBD diagnosis and treatment and serves the San Diego community. Provides a short didactic session and case presentations.

UC San Diego
Health Sciences

Wednesday, January 31, 2024 – Research Symposium

SAVE-THE-DATE

UCSD DIVISION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY & HEPATOLOGY

15th Annual Research Symposium

“Bridging the Gap: Innovations in the Management of Obesity and MASLD”

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024

MEDICAL EDUCATION TELEMEDICINE BLDG. (MET)

LOWER AUDITORIUM

Course Directors
Dr. Veeral Ajmera, MD
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