



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- December Newsletter
- Message from the Chief
- AGA Leadership Summit
- SDDRC CDC
- Grand Rounds
- Community Connections
- AASLD Liver Meeting
- Jon Isenberg Lecture
- Fellowship News
- Research
- Division Holiday Party
- San Diego GI Society
- Alvarado Visit
- Upcoming Events

Dear UCSD Gastroenterology and Hepatology Family,

As we approach the end of the year, it brings me great pleasure to reflect on the outstanding achievements and remarkable contributions we have collectively made as a division. The December newsletter serves as a testament to the incredible dedication, innovation, and passion that each member of our team brings to the table.

Our clinical initiatives have not only elevated the standard of patient care but have also exemplified the collaborative spirit that defines our division. Your unwavering commitment to excellence has resulted in impactful changes, enhancing the lives of those we serve. Whether it's pioneering treatments, improving procedural techniques, or optimizing patient or fellowship experiences, your dedication to advancing the field of gastroenterology and hepatology is truly commendable.

The newsletter showcases the fruits of our labor, highlighting the remarkable research productivity that has been a hallmark of our division this year. From groundbreaking studies to innovative projects, your intellectual curiosity and commitment to pushing the boundaries of knowledge have set new standards in our pursuit of excellence.

As we celebrate these achievements, let us remember that our success is a collective effort. Each fellow, faculty member, trainee, and staff plays a vital role in the success story of our division. Your passion, hard work, and collaboration have created an environment where excellence thrives.

Looking ahead, let the energy and enthusiasm showcased in the newsletter serve as a source of inspiration for the coming year. Together, there is no limit to what we can achieve. Let us continue to push the boundaries, explore new frontiers, and make a lasting impact on the health and well-being of our patients.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to each of you for your dedication, perseverance, and the positive energy you bring to our division. Wishing you a joyous holiday season filled with well-deserved rest, surrounded by the warmth of family and friends.

Here's to a new year filled with even greater achievements and shared successes.

With appreciation and warm regards,

Rohit Loomba, MD, MHSc
Professor of Medicine
Director, MASLD Research Center
Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
UC San Diego Health



#18
GASTROENTEROLOGY
& GI SURGERY



UC San Diego #1 for
Gastroenterology &
Hepatology Research

AGA Leadership Summit

Amanda Krause's article "Diagnostic Yield of Ambulatory Reflux Monitoring Systems for Evaluation of Chronic Laryngeal Symptoms" was accepted for publication in the American Journal of Gastroenterology. Also, She was invited to be a moderator for two DDW sessions this year, the fellow directed QI session and AGA board review course.



SDDRC Career Development Club November 2, 2023

Dr. Rohit Loomba pictured with Drs. Carolin Schneider, MD & Kai Markus Schneider, MD, PhD, visiting professors from Aachen University in Germany.



Joint Grand Rounds & SDDRC Seminar 10.31.23

Dr. David Weinberg, MD, MSc visited UCSD from Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health in Philadelphia in order to present his talk at the Joint Grand Rounds & SDDRC Seminar on 10/31/23. The title of his talk was "Guanylyl Cyclase C as a CRC chemoprevention target".



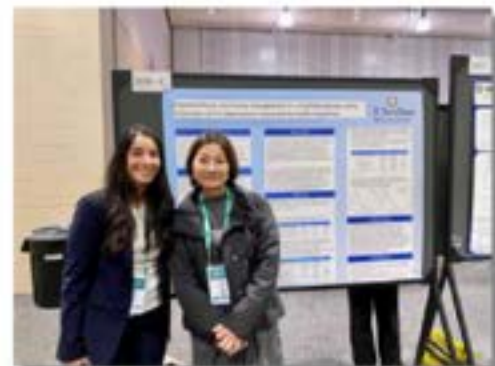
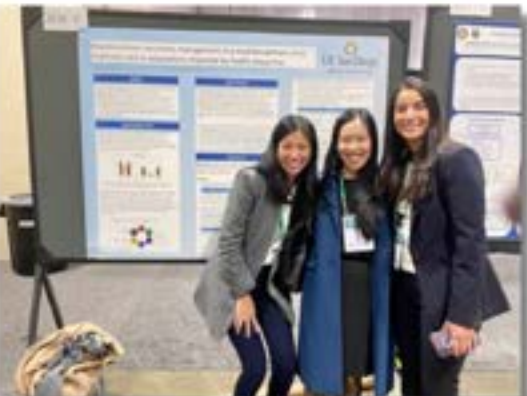
Community Connections



- Abbvie Hepatology BSC
- Capso cam Plus
- Cook Medical
- Erbe USA
- FUJIFILM Healthcare Americas Corporation
- Gilead
- Intercept Pharma
- Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals
- Medtronic Endoscopy Operating Unit
- Olympus
- Prometheus Laboratories
- Regeneron
- Sanofi
- STERIS Endoscopy
- Takeda Pharmaceuticals USA

AASLD Nov. 10-14, 2023

The Liver Meeting®



Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
2023 Endowed Jon I. Isenberg Lecture



Dr. Barbara Jung, M.D.
honored us by being this
years Endowed Jon I.
Isenberg recipient



Fellow & Faculty Dinner



2024 Incoming GI Fellows

We are very excited to welcome the incoming fellows
to our Fellowship Program, July 2024



Maria Abraham
Brigham & Women
CLINICAL



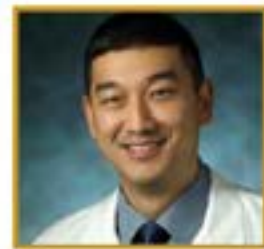
Jonathan Dounel
UCSD
CLINICAL



Katherine Jordan
DUKE
CLINICAL



Omar Belfaqeh
Mt. Sinai
CLINICAL



Sa Do Kang
Johns Hopkins
RESEARCH

Highly Cited Researchers 2023



Bernd Schnabl, M.D.



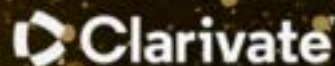
Rohit Loomba, M.D.



William Sandborn, M.D.



David Brenner, M.D.



2024 San Diego GI Society



President
Shailja Shah, M.D.



Vice President
Brigid Boland, M.D.



Secretary/Treasurer
Shравan Dave, M.D.

Faculty Member Positions

Remarkable Achievements in Research Funding



Ex Vivo Characterization of IBD Patient Intestinal Tissue
Kyowa Kirin Pharmaceutical Development, Inc.
30261897
08/23/23 - 08/23/28

Brigid Boland, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
UCSD



A multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase III study to assess the efficacy of tralipant in relieving symptoms of Gastroparesis
Vanda Pharmaceuticals Inc.
VP-VLY-686-3303
07/26/23 - 07/25/33

David Kunkel, MD
Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine
UCSD



The role of intestinal ga130 in alcohol-associated liver disease
NIH
Alcohol Abuse And Alcoholism, National Institute of Health
1R21AA030654
08/20/23 - 08/31/25

Cristina Llorente, PhD
Associate Professor
UCSD



Advanced IBD Preceptorship/Interventional Endoscopy Preceptorship/GI Fellowship
Eli Lilly And Company
Grant ID A-35031
06/28/23 - 06/27/24 - \$20,000

Siddharth Singh, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
UCSD



Ubiquitin D as a potential therapeutic target for NASH, HCC and chronic kidney diseases
NIH
Diabetes, Digestive & Kidney Diseases, National Institute of Health
1 R01 DK133930-01A1
08/01/23 - 5/31/28

Debanjan Dhar, PhD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
UCSD

Dissecting the Intracellular and Extracellular Role of TREM2 in the Pathogenesis of Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis
NIH
Diabetes, Digestive & Kidney Diseases, National Institute of Health
1R01DK137061
08/15/23 - 06/30/27



Development of Engineered Native Bacteria as a Tool for Functional Manipulation of the Gut Microbiome
NIH
National Inst Of Allergy And Infectious Diseases
1R01AI163483
06/20/23 - 05/31/28

Amir Zarrinpar, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor
UCSD
VA San Diego

Designing Engineered Native Bacteria to Functionally Cure IBD
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation, Inc.
1049147
07/01/23 - 06/30/24



Novel Electrical Impedance Methodology to Understand Functional Dysphagia
NIH

Diabetes, Digestive & Kidney Diseases, National Institute of Health
2R56DK109376
09/15/16 - 08/31/24



High Dimensional Mass Cytometry as a tool to understand ozanimod's MOA
Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation, Inc.
30163937
07/07/23 - 07/07/27

Jesus Rivera-Nieves, MD
Adjunct Professor of Medicine
UCSD
VA San Diego

Enhancing Mentoring of Diverse Early Career Researchers
NIH
Diabetes, Digestive & Kidney Diseases, National Institute of Health
1K26DK138378
09/27/23 - 05/31/28



Role of gut microbial ethanol production in alcohol use disorder and alcohol-associated liver disease
NIH
Alcohol Abuse And Alcoholism, National Institute of Health
1K99AA031328
08/20/23 - 08/31/25

Cynthia Hsu, MD, PhD
Assistant Adjunct Professor
UCSD
VA San Diego

Effect of gut microbial ethanol production on alcohol use disorder and alcohol-associated liver disease
University of Southern California
Sub SC0N-00004701 (AA011999)
01/01/23 - 12/31/23



Semaglutide treatment in the real-world for fibrotic NASH in obesity and type 2 diabetes mellitus
Novo Nordisk A/S
30243362
07/12/23 - 07/12/28



We are excited to share a \$11-12 M initiative that seeks to modernize campus resources and shared equipment on the School of Medicine campus, making high-end quantitative biology accessible to all.

- A complete suite of modern technology to assess cell state, fate, and trait. [See attached list]
- In vitro and in vivo/tissues
- Access to dedicated funds in the form of competitive pre- and postdoctoral fellowships (~50-75 K/fellowship; biannual).

When: Public launch planned in April 2024.

More details will be available on the main site, Institute for Network Medicine <https://medschool.ucsd.edu/research/inm/Pages/default.aspx>

Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology
2023 Holiday Party



Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology
2023 Holiday Party



Message from Dr. Loomba
Largest turnout & Best Ever
@UCSD_GI Holiday Party!
One team, one family - very
grateful for love, kindness &
friendship that binds our GI
Division! This couldn't have been
possible without the work done
by our GI Admin. Team.

 Sincere Gratitude on
behalf of the Division!



Visit to Alvarado Hospital



Charitable Donations

You may contribute and support our GI Fellowship Program and allow our fellows to attend training-related activities by clicking and donating on this [GIVE LINK](https://givetu.ucsd.edu/giving/home/gift-referral/010194af-e449-42cb-a281-e0f064efeb7b/) or you can visit the website: <https://givetu.ucsd.edu/giving/home/gift-referral/010194af-e449-42cb-a281-e0f064efeb7b/>

Remember: if you itemize, you may be able to receive a charitable deduction for 2023 for your gifts received on or before December 31.

Upcoming Events



UCSD DIVISION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY & HEPATOLOGY
15th Annual Research Symposium
"Bridging the Gap: Innovations in the Management of Obesity and MASLD"

Course Directors
 Dr. Yessal Ajami, MD
 Dr. Marissa Tinocapa, MD, MS
 Dr. Amir Zaitinger, MD, PhD

WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 31
 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM
 10:30 AM - MET 141
 POSTER SESSION
 12:15 PM - LOWER AUDITORIUM
 LECTURE

LUNCH & REFRESHMENTS WILL BE OFFERED TO REGISTERED ATTENDEES

Keynote Speakers

MICHAEL CAMILLERI, MD, DSC
 Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

ELIZABETH SPELIOTES, MD, PHD, MPH, FAASLD
 University of Michigan
 Computational Medicine and Bioinformatics

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER



Questions?
GIAdmin@health.ucsd.edu



SAN DIEGO DIGESTIVE DISEASES RESEARCH CENTER (SDDRC)
SYMPOSIUM
 Friday February 9, 2024
 1:00pm to 5:00pm, MET Lower Auditorium

| | |
|---|---|
|  | Salim, Alan R., PhD Professor and Director Institute for Diabetes and Metabolic Health UCSD/UCJA Diabetes Research Center University of California San Diego |
|  | John Carethers, MD, MACP Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences Distinguished Professor of Medicine University of California San Diego |

Additional Presentations by:

- 2023-24 Pilot & Feasibility Awardees
- Member of Patient Advocacy Board
- Representatives from each SDDRC Core

UC San Diego School of Medicine
 Zoom Meeting: THD
 Password: THD

SDDRC Reception with food and beverages 2:45 - 3:40 pm MET Courtyard

Detailed schedule will be posted on SDDRC Website: [SDDRC Symposium](#)

Hosted by SDDRC Directors
 Bernd Schnabl, MD & Lars Eckmann, MD
 Questions? SDDRC@Health.ucsd.edu

Upcoming Events

UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Advances in Gastroenterology & Hepatology CME 2024

Invited Speakers



Naga Chalasani, MD
Indiana University



Loren Laine, MD
Yale School of Medicine



Uma Mukherjee, MD
UCSF

SATURDAY
MARCH 2, 2024
7:00 AM - 4:30 PM
MET
LOWER AUDITORIUM

Course Directors



Praveen Gargam, MD



Navin Gupta, MD



Robert Enoske, MD

Course Objectives

- Current understanding of the risks and benefits of proton pump inhibitors
- Best practices for management of refractory H. pylori infection
- Interaction between cannabis and the gastrointestinal system
- State of the art approaches to evaluation of occult gastrointestinal bleeding
- Novel pharmacologic therapies for ulcerative colitis
- Evaluation of the role and positioning of biologic therapies for Crohn's disease
- Update on classification of fatty liver disease
- Novel therapies for metabolic associated steatohepatitis
- Positioning telapressin in the management of hepatorenal syndrome
- Management of achalasia
- Evidence-based approaches to performing polypectomy

UC San Diego

School of Medicine

Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology

SAVE-THE-DATE



FRIDAY
APRIL 19, 2024



TO BE DETERMINED



TO BE DETERMINED

RESEARCH RETREAT



FOR QUESTIONS
GADMIN@HEALTH.UCSD.EDU



UPCOMING EVENTS



DDW2024
Digestive Disease Week®
MAY 19-21, 2024 | WASHINGTON, D.C.
EXHIBIT DATES: MAY 19-21, 2024



Save-the-Date DDW Reception

May 19, 2024
6-9 PM
Location: TBD

UC San Diego

Other Events

- ▶ Giants in Medicine
March 2024
- ▶ Fellows Graduation
June 2024
- ▶ New Fellows Orientation
July 2024

Gastroenterology & Hepatology News is distributed by the
Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.
If you have any questions/comments or wish to be
removed from this list, please contact
giadmin@health.ucsd.edu