

University of California, San Diego (UCSD)

Fellowship Program Name: UC San Diego & Kaiser Permanente - Integrated

Fellowship Program Director: Emily S. Lukacz, MD, MAS

Fellowship Program Co-Director: Kimberly Ferrante, MD

Fellowship Coordinators: Danahe Medina Hernandez

Website: <https://medschool.ucsd.edu/som/obgyn/education-training/Fellowships/Pages/womans-pelvic.aspx>

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Description: Our three-year fellowship in Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery is offered under the direction of Dr. Emily S. Lukacz (UCSD) and Dr. Kimberly Ferrante, MD (Kaiser Foundation Hospital). The joint training program was developed by Dr. Charles Nager (UCSD) and Dr. Karl Luber (Kaiser Foundation Hospital) in 2000. The program's faculty includes Drs. Albo, Alperin, Brubaker, Lukacz, Nager and Santiago-Lastra at UCSD; and, Drs. Catanzarite, Diwadkar, Ferrante, Menefee and Tan-Kim at Kaiser.

The educational objective is to train the next generation of leaders in urogynecology and reconstructive pelvic surgery. While there is a strong clinical component to the fellowship, the focus is to prepare graduates for careers in academic medicine and teaching. The fellow will be welcome to participate in ongoing research but he/she will also be encouraged to develop his/her own ideas and to plan, execute, analyze, and report on these subjects. Presentations are expected at the American Urogynecologic Society meeting (AUGS). The fellowship is accredited by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG) and the American Board of Urology (ABU).

The fellowship is jointly (50/50) shared and funded by UCSD and Kaiser Permanente, San Diego. This combined program takes advantage of the strengths of each institution and diversifies the educational experience and training of the fellow with broad exposure to several faculty members. It is expected that the fellow will spend approximately 50% of their clinical time at UCSD and 50% of their clinical time at Kaiser. The clinical experience will be approximately 50% ambulatory and 50% operative. The diverse faculty provide training in the full spectrum of incontinence and prolapse surgical procedures including open, vaginal, laparoscopic, and robotic approaches.

We offer a structured Clinical Research Enhancement through Supplemental Training (CREST) program.

All fellows are required to complete six of the core courses (which is department funded) beginning in July of Year 1 and finishing June of Year 2. Each CREST module is 10 weeks long with two-hour periods of instruction each week (generally Wednesday from 4-6 pm). The required modules are: Patient Oriented Research I & II, Biostatistics I & II and Epidemiology I & II. Fellows have the option to complete the entire CREST program (which is also department funded) which involves supplemental courses in presentation skills, data management, etc which may be used as credit towards a Masters in Clinical Research.

In addition to the CREST program, other educational activities include: UCSD Grand Rounds and Patient Care conferences, Quarterly Joint Kaiser/UCSD Research Meetings, Kaiser Patient Case conferences, research mentor meetings, bimonthly comprehensive chapter review of our specialty using major textbooks, urogynecology seminars: 7-8 lectures annually covering topics essential to the specialty, quarterly fellow roundtables and Journal Club every month.

Our San Diego site participates in both the NIH/NIDDK Prevention of Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (PLUS) and NICHD Pelvic Floor Disorders Network (PFDN). Fellows participate in recruitment, intervention and follow-up of the ongoing clinical trials of these networks and have access to databases for independent research projects. Clinical research coordinators at both UCSD and Kaiser are available to educate fellows in the implementation of their own projects and grant funds are available to support research conducted at each of the sites. While numerous projects are ongoing at the sites, fellows are encouraged to develop their own area of research interest to develop into a thesis presentation.

Other Degrees or Curricula Offered: Masters in Advanced Studies in Clinical Research can be obtained with 12 additional courses after completing CREST coursework funded 50% through the Ellis Wyer endowment. Additional funds are available to support a 4-week global health elective.

Requirements: Graduate of accredited US or Canadian ObGyn or Urology residency training program.

Program Length: 3 years for Ob/Gyn and Urology applicants

Number of Fellows: 1 per year

UCSD Faculty:

Emily S. Lukacz, MD
Charles W. Nager, MD
Marianna Alperin, MD
Michael E. Albo, MD
Yahir A. Santiago-Lastra, MD
Jennifer Anger, MD, MPH
Maria Uloko, MD

Kaiser Faculty:

Kimberly Ferrante, MD
Shawn Menefee, MD
Gouri Diwadkar, MD
Jasmine Tan-Kim, MD
Tatiana Catanzarite, MD

Colorectal Faculty: Marco Tomassi, MD (Colorectal Surgery, Kaiser Permanente); Daniel Klaristenfeld, MD (Colorectal Surgery, Kaiser Permanente)

Application Deadline: Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Interview Date: Saturday, April 22, 2023

UCSD-KP will offer one AM and one PM interview session to allow candidates the opportunity to interview at more than one Program on the same day. Candidates can coordinate with the UCSD-KP Program Coordinator.

UCSD-KP will not participate in offering first-round interviews.

Application Process:

Application to the **University of California (San Diego) Medical Center Program, Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (OB/GYN) – Accreditation ID: 2210522003** may be made through ERAS. For more information on the application process, please visit [AAMC: Applying to Fellowships with ERAS](#).

Applications must be complete before the file is considered for review. Please confirm all documents are submitted in a timely fashion. We will hold remote/virtual interviews on **Saturday, April 22, 2023**. We are unable to accommodate individual interview options on other dates.

In addition to the ERAS application, please upload the following documents to ERAS:

- Photo
- Curriculum Vitae
- Personal Statement
- At least three Letters of Recommendation. One of these must come from the Residency Program Director and/or Department Chairperson.
- USMLE Transcripts, Step 1, 2 and 3
- CREOG Score Reports
- Current email address

A complete application packet must be received via ERAS **no later than March 1, 2023, to be considered for our interview process.**

Note: We are involved in the National Resident Match Program (NRMP). To register for the fellowship matching process, please go to the NRMP web site at www.nrmp.org