

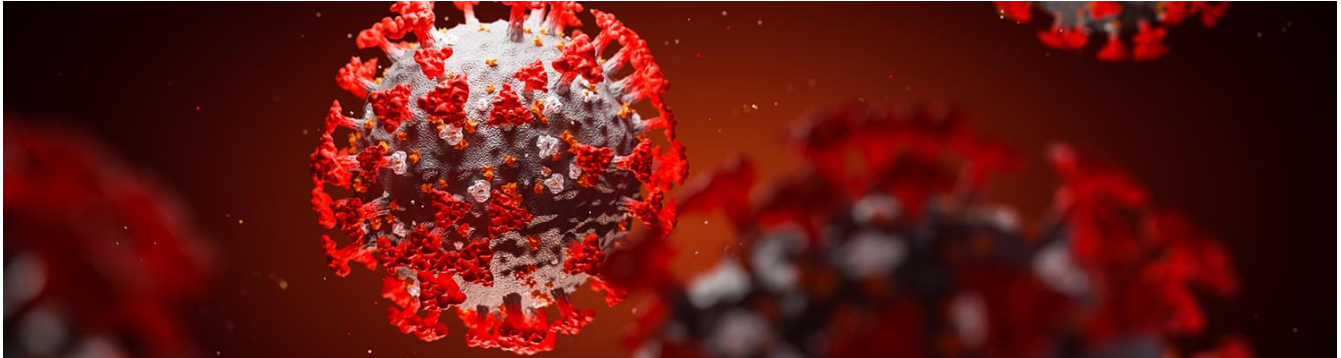
UC San Diego

UC San Diego News Center

April 07, 2020

COVID-19 Experts Directory

Sources for Media



Last updated June 23, 2020

Experts at UC San Diego are available to discuss the novel coronavirus, the COVID-19 illness and the societal impacts of the pandemic. If you don't see the source you're looking for here, we have more. Please be in touch with our [public information officers](#).

Public Health and Infectious Diseases

David Bazzo, MD, Family Medicine and Public Health

Primary care and sports medicine; general health concerns and patient preventive behaviors.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Christopher Longhurst, MD, UC San Diego Health

General health system preparedness and operations relevant to COVID-19.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Victor Nizet, MD, Pediatrics and Pharmacy

Host-microbe systems; vaccine development; infectious disease research.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

David Pride, MD, Pathology and Infectious Diseases

Infectious diseases; pathology of viruses; COVID-19 testing; drug and vaccine development.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Robert “Chip” Schooley, MD, Infectious Diseases and Global Public Health

Infectious disease pathology and public health measures.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)



Medicine

Eric Adler, MD, Cardiology

Heart health in relation to COVID-19.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Brigid Boland, MD, Gastroenterology

Digestive issues and symptoms with COVID-19.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Tia Hubbard, MD, Pediatrics

COVID-19 risks and prevention among women and infants.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Atul Malhotra, MD, Sleep Medicine and Pulmonology

Respiratory illnesses and treatment.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)



Jess Mandel, MD, Pulmonology

Respiratory diseases; ventilators; treating COVID-19 patients.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Khai Nguyen, MD, Primary Care and Senior Medicine

COVID-19 effects on seniors; specializes in geriatrics and gerontology.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Sandip Patel, MD, Medical Oncology

Coronavirus threats relevant to cancer patients with compromised immune systems.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Wellness

Eric Hekler, Family Medicine and Public Health

Community organizing and building collective community support; coordinating community response and research efforts; factors that allow people to be healthy, recover from an illness or cope with a chronic condition; psychology of the pandemic.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Dilip Jeste, MD, Psychiatry and Neurosciences

Healthy aging; mental health issues, particularly relating to elderly population.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Matthew Kritz, Intercollegiate Athletics

Athletic performance; high-performance amateur and professional athletes; care and prevention of athletic injuries; mental health and well-being; data analysis for performance-related issues, health and wellness; remote training for athletes in isolation.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Environment

Dimitri Deheyn, Marine Biology

Effects of economic disruptions on ecosystems; what it would take for nature to “heal”; plastic and industrial pollution; San Diego-specific ecological effects.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Jeremy Jackson, Oceanography

Effects of economic disruptions on ecosystems; what it would take for nature to “heal.”

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Ralph Keeling, Geosciences

Climate change impacts; carbon dioxide emissions decreases from economic slowdown.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)



Kimberly Prather, Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosols

Aerosolization of viruses including SARS-CoV-2; airborne transport, sources and reactivity of aerosols; investigation of viruses that can be detected outdoors in coastal sewage and the air along the coast.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Veerabhadran “Ram” Ramanathan, Atmospheric and Climate Sciences

Particulate pollution; how COVID-19 can affect spread of short-lived climate pollutants like methane and refrigerants, smog.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

David Victor, International Relations

Forecasting energy futures amid the coronavirus outbreak; how shocks like the virus may be expected to catalyze serious solutions to the global problem of climate change, but prospects appear bleak.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Technology and Innovation

Omar Akbari, Cell and Developmental Biology

Development of a novel COVID-19 point-of-care detection system – rapid and cheap – using CRISPR technologies.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Rommie Amaro, Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Development and application of computational methods in drug discovery; molecular biophysics; simulations of the coronavirus envelope; also H1N1 virus.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Henrik Christensen, Computer Science

Robots as effective tools in combating the COVID-19 pandemic; robots for clinical care; robots for telemedicine; robots for decontamination; robots for delivery and handling of contaminated waste; robots for monitoring compliance with voluntary quarantines.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

James Friend, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Designing, engineering and testing ventilator prototypes to address ventilator shortages.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Liangfang Zhang, NanoEngineering

Nanomedicine and nanotechnology approaches to address COVID-19 pandemic.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

International Affairs

Tai Ming Cheung, U.S.-China Relations

China's response to the virus; U.S-China relations; medical systems integration as a national security resource.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Rafael Fernández de Castro, U.S.-Mexican Studies

Impacts on border communities; vulnerable migrant populations; and US-Mexico interdependence containing the virus.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Stephan Haggard, Korea-Pacific Studies

South Korea, Taiwan and Japan's response to the virus; foreign aid to North Korea's containment efforts.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Gordon McCord, Development Economics

Mexico's unpreparedness for COVID-19; climate-change connections to the rise of infectious disease.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Victor Shih, China and Pacific Relations

U.S-China relations; China's response to the virus; economic impacts to both the United States and China.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Economy and Jobs

Jeffrey Clemens, Economics

Health economics; healthcare capacity in the United States; economic stimulus plan; unemployment; medical innovation.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)



Elizabeth Lyons, Management

Telecommuting best practices; firm investment into telecommuting pre- and post-virus; the future of telecommuting.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Josh Shapiro, UC San Diego Extension

Workforce development; economy; gig economy workers, healthcare; advanced manufacturing; STEM education; the role of philanthropy in economic development.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Mary Walshok, UC San Diego Extension

Local economy; gig economy; continuing education; worker behavior; skilled and unskilled workers.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Education

Ed Abeyta, UC San Diego Extension

Adult education; K-12 education; post-retirement education for ages 55+; standardized test preparation (SAT/ACT).

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Morgan Appel, UC San Diego Extension

Behavioral psychology related to K-12 students and teachers; social and emotional aspects of teaching and learning; arts immersion and arts in education; parent and community education; cultivating resilience.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Amanda Datnow, Education Studies

K-12 education; educational reform; educational policy; teachers' professional lives; issues of equity; leadership in schools and school districts responding to the pandemic.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Mica Pollock, Education Studies

How schools are adapting to distance learning; issues of equity in K-12 schools; anti-racism efforts.



[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Hugo Villar, UC San Diego Extension

Life sciences and professional development; online learning; drug discovery; continuing education for healthcare professionals; adult education and continuing education trends.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)



Alison Wishard Guerra, Education Studies

K-12 education during the pandemic; how trauma and stress impact learning; building cognitive skills by strengthening social-emotional connections at home.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Society and Social Impacts

On Amir, Marketing

Consumer behavior; judgement and decision-making; risk and uncertainty.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Patrick Anderson, Communication and Ethnic Studies

Patient experiences of quarantine; medical humanities; literary and artistic responses to illness.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Ayelet Gneezy, Behavioral Sciences and Marketing

Prosocial behavior; social preferences; charitable giving.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Zoltan Hajnal, Political Science

COVID-19 impacts on elections, political parties and voter turnout; racial patterns in democracy and their connection to greater COVID-19 fatalities among African-American communities.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Dan Hallin, Communication

Politicization of pandemics; historical perspectives on other epidemics/pandemics; media coverage and disinformation.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Lilly Irani, Communication

Surveillance; privacy and data ethics; gig-worker organizing and rights.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Bonnie Kaiser, Anthropology and Global Health

Taking into account culture and psychology when designing pandemic response; cross-cultural concepts of illness and mental health; explaining epidemiology to the public; messaging the crisis.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Uma Karmarkar, Marketing

Consumer psychology and behavior, hoarding, panic buying.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Isaac Martin, Urban Studies and Planning

Economic inequalities exposed by the pandemic; populism and progressivism; housing policies; public appetite for taxes to support the public good.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Tom Wong, Political Science

COVID-19 border closures; impact of the pandemic response on asylum seekers and immigrants; impact on immigration policy.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Discovery and Basic Research

Matt Daugherty, Molecular Biology

Evolution of host-pathogen interactions; innate antiviral immunity; how SARS-CoV-2 and other viruses enter the human population and become pandemics.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Stephen Hedrick, Molecular Biology

Past and future epidemics; the immunology behind vaccines.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)



Maho Niwa Rosen, Molecular Biology

Molecular basis of human diseases; key biological features of SARS-CoV-2 cells.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Alistair Russell, Molecular Biology

The biology of viruses; innate immunity to viral infections.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Suresh Subramani, Molecular Biology

Biological roots of SARS-CoV-2 virus and host-pathogen interactions; spread of the COVID-19 disease.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Ethics

Richard Arneson, Philosophy

Politics and liberty; social and global justice; ethics of self-defense.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Saba Bazargan-Forward, Philosophy

Complicity; collective responsibility; coercion analysis and liability.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Reuvan Brandt, Philosophy

Medical and biomedical ethics; moral theory; ethics and society.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Dana Nelkin, Philosophy

The intersection of law and ethics, and the law of privacy; moral judgements

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Samuel Rickless, Philosophy

Right to privacy; legal interpretation; freedom and equality under the law.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)



Manuel Vargas, Philosophy

Moral responsibility and psychology; free will; ethics and race.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

Monique Wonderly, Philosophy

Applied ethics; moral psychology and agency; human emotion and attachment.

[Website](#) | [Media Contact](#)

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