

First Name	Last Name	Email	
Katrina	Abuabara	katrina.abuabara@ucsf.edu	<p>Katrina Abuabara, MD, MA, MSCE http://profiles.ucsf.edu/katrina.abuabara https://abuabara.ucsf.edu/ Email: katrina.abuabara@ucsf.edu Dermatology, skin barrier, aging, inflammatory skin disease</p> <p>Dr. Abuabara is a dermatologist and epidemiologist whose research team studies how environmental and sociocultural factors impact health across the lifespan. They focus on inflammatory skin diseases like eczema and psoriasis with variable disease courses, and on the role of skin barrier decline in the aging process. In particular, they are studying how age-related changes in cutaneous physiology affect immune function, sleep, cognition, and cardiovascular health, and are examining the therapeutic potential of skin barrier repair with safe, low-cost, and widely available emollients.</p>
Tamara	Alliston	tamara.alliston@ucsf.edu	<p>Tamara Alliston, PhD https://profiles.ucsf.edu/tamara.alliston https://allistonlab.ucsf.edu/ Email: tamara.alliston@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Skeletal mechanobiology, aging, TGF-beta signaling, bioengineering</p> <p>Dr. Alliston studies the crosstalk between biochemical and physical cues in the skeleton. My laboratory combines tools and approaches from molecular and cell biology as well as from materials science and engineering. We apply our expertise in the study of TGFβ signaling to investigate the interaction between physical and biochemical signals in the control of skeletal cell differentiation and the role of these pathways in skeletal development and diseases such as osteoarthritis and osteoporosis, which disproportionately affect the aging population.</p>
Julie	Anderson	jandersen@buckinstitute.org	<p>Julie Andersen jandersen@buckinstitute.org https://www.buckinstitute.org/lab/andersen-lab/</p> <p>Due to their postmitotic state, the potential for neurons to undergo senescence has historically received little attention. However, the study of senescence within the central nervous system (CNS) including within neurons has recently begun to emerge as a new etiological framework for better understanding neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease (AD) and Parkinson's disease (PD). The Current research in the Andersen laboratory is towards understanding the role of disease-related stressors such as Aβ in inducing neuronal senescence and the mechanisms involved underlying disease progression towards identification of novel therapeutic targets and treatments for the disorder including the use of senolytics. These include selectively removal senescent cells or immune therapy and at what stage of the disorder these would be most effective using as models both in vitro human cell cultures and in vivo mouse disease models.</p>
Jalayne	Arias	Jalayne.arias@ucsf.edu	<p>Jalayne Arias, JD, MA Jalayne.arias@ucsf.edu https://memory.ucsf.edu/people/jalayne-arias-jd</p> <p>Jalayne J. Arias, JD, MA is an Assistant Professor at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) in the Memory and Aging Center, Department of Neurology. She brings her unique training in law and clinical ethics to evaluate the legal and ethical consequences of neurodegenerative illnesses. She currently has multiple funded projects using empirical legal research methods and qualitative research to explore the discrimination risks based on Alzheimer's disease predictive markers; financial, legal, and social decision-making in young-onset dementias, insurance coverage for genetic testing; and genetic data sharing policies.</p>

Michelle	Arkin	michelle.arkin@ucsf.edu	<p>Michelle Arkin, PhD Pharmaceutical Chemistry Director, Small Molecule Discovery Center Genentech Hall, S512D University of California San Francisco 600 16th St, San Francisco, CA 94143 https://pharm.ucsf.edu/arkin https://pharm.ucsf.edu/smdc email: michelle.arkin@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Drug discovery, chemical biology, screening, neurodegeneration, fibrosis, cancer</p> <p>Dr. Arkin is a chemical biologist in the department of pharmaceutical chemistry. Her lab develops biochemical and cellular assays to measure how proteins are dysregulated in age-related diseases, and then develops drug-like molecules that may alter the course of the disease. The lab specializes in 'challenging' or 'undruggable' targets, like protein-protein interactions and disordered proteins. The group is highly interdisciplinary, including biochemistry, biophysics, chemistry, high-throughput screening, and fragment-based discovery.</p>
Mary Helen	Barcellos-Hoff	Maryhelen.barcellos-hoff@ucsf.edu	<p>Mary Helen Barcellos-Hoff, Ph.D. https://cancer.ucsf.edu/people/barcellos-hoff.mary-helen https://barcelloshofflab.ucsf.edu/laboratory-dr-mary-helen-barcellos-hoff Maryhelen.barcellos-hoff@ucsf.edu Cancer biology, aging, radiation therapy, carcinogenesis, TGFbeta</p> <p>I am a cancer and radiation biologist who studies radiation as a cancer therapy and as a carcinogen of breast. We use mouse models, human cells and tumors, molecular and cell biology methods and bioinformatics to investigate the responses to ionizing radiation that determine cancer frequency or treatment response. We focus on the activity of transforming growth factor beta (TGFβ), whose activity is induced by radiation, and its roles in the DNA damage response, immunosuppression and inflammation. In regards to aging, we have a large collection of blood, plasma, bone marrow, spleen and tumor specimens collected from mice as a function of age at irradiation spanning the lifetime of female Balb/c mice. We are conducting multi-omic analysis of these to frame a more comprehensive view of aging per se in females and how it is perturbed by radiation and systemic inflammation.</p>
Deb	Barnes	deborah.barnes@ucsf.edu	<p>Deborah Barnes, PhD, MPH http://profiles.ucsf.edu/deborah.barnes Email: deborah.barnes@ucsf.edu Dementia, Cognition Disorders, Risk Factors, Prevention, Epidemiology</p> <p>Dr. Barnes is a Professor with the UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences, Departments of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Epidemiology & Biostatistics. She is also affiliated with the UCSF Center for Population Brain Health and the Osher Center for Integrative Health. Dr. Barnes' research focuses on identification of factors that may increase or decrease dementia risk; development of risk prediction models for cognitive impairment and dementia in older adults; and evaluation of potential strategies to prevent, delay onset or ameliorate symptoms of cognitive impairment and dementia. She is particularly interested in the potential protective effects of physical, mental and social activity. She developed the Preventing Loss of Independence through Exercise (PLIÉ) integrative group movement program for people living with dementia (https://plie4dementia.com/) and is currently conducting studies of implementation of PLIÉ in VA Community Living Centers (nursing homes) and livestreaming virtual group programs in partnership with Together Senior Health (https://togetherseniorhealth.com/). In addition, she has developed and is performing a multisite embedded pragmatic clinical trial of a tool that uses electronic health record data to identify patients with undiagnosed dementia (EHR Risk of Alzheimer's And Dementia Assessment Rule, eRADAR).</p>

Scott	Bauer	Scott.Bauer@ucsf.edu	<p>Scott Bauer, MD, MSc scott.bauer@ucsf.edu Aging, benign urology, frailty, sarcopenia, mitochondria, overactive bladder, benign prostatic hyperplasia</p> <p>Dr. Bauer is a general internist, translational epidemiologist, and clinician investigator with a primary care practice based at the San Francisco VA. His research is focused on identifying age-related risk factors and mechanisms of benign urologic conditions, such as lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS), in older adults. A growing body of work argues that the existing sex-specific and bladder or prostate-focused paradigms for benign urologic conditions are insufficient and failing older adults. Dr. Bauer's goal is to build an epidemiologic backbone for understanding age-related LUTS risk factors using high-quality existing data by leveraging geriatric principles and mechanistic insights from geroscience. Currently, he is exploring whether age-related changes in skeletal muscle at the system (strength and physical function), organ (muscle mass and volume), and cellular (mitochondrial bioenergetics) level are associated with the presence and progression of LUTS similarly in both women and men, independent of chronological age and other confounding factors. To accomplish this, he is using data from the "Study of Muscle Mobility and Aging" (SOMMA), a prospective cohort of 875 adults, age 70-90, who will be followed for 4 years and undergo repeated assessments of urinary symptoms, muscle health, physical performance, and biomarkers of aging. Dr. Bauer also has active projects using data from the Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging, Osteoporotic Fractures in Men Study, Women's Health Initiative Observational Study, Symptoms Lower Urinary Tract Dysfunction Research Network, as well as a recently funded pilot randomized controlled trial of exercise for LUTS in older men.</p>
Mallar	Bhattacharya	mallar.bhattacharya@ucsf.edu	<p>Mallar Bhattacharya, MD mallar.bhattacharya@ucsf.edu https://bhattacharyalab.ucsf.edu https://profiles.ucsf.edu/mallar.bhattacharya</p> <p>Dr. Bhattacharya is a pulmonary and critical care doctor and basic scientist whose laboratory at UCSF Parnassus studies how aging and cellular senescence affect the fibrotic response to lung injury and infection. Injury to the lung induces a cellular senescence profile that is associated with immune activation, which in turn feeds back to activate fibroblasts and induce lung scarring. Our lab explores how immune cells regulate both activation and senescence of lung fibroblasts. This research will help to elucidate why aged individuals are more vulnerable to severe lung injury in the setting of critical illness and to identify new molecular targets for therapies.</p>
Willa	Brenowitz	Willa.Brenowitz@ucsf.edu	<p>Willa Brenowitz, PhD, MPH https://profiles.ucsf.edu/willa.brenowitz Email: Willa.Brenowitz@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Key words: epidemiologic methods, aging, Alzheimer's disease and dementia, sensory impairment</p> <p>I received my PhD in epidemiology and MPH in health services from the University of Washington School of Public Health and am an Assistant Professor in the UCSF Departments of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Broadly my research interest is in identifying risk factors for Alzheimer's disease (AD) and related dementias. My overarching research approach relates to understanding AD as a complex and multi-etiological process that is difficult to disentangle from other comorbidities. My current research focuses on examining the link between sensory impairments (e.g. hearing and vision loss) and dementia in older adults. I am also interested in using novel statistical and epidemiologic approaches to study AD and other chronic diseases in aging including Mendelian randomization or genetic instrumental variable analysis.</p>

Abigail	Buchwalter	Abigail.Buchwalter@ucsf.edu	<p>Abigail Buchwalter, PhD https://physiology.ucsf.edu/content/abigail-buchwalter-phd Abigail.Buchwalter@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Cell biology, aging, genome organization</p> <p>Dr. Buchwalter is a cell biologist whose laboratory seeks to understand how the packaging of the genome within the nucleus influences cell function, and how aging disrupts this exquisite organization. The lab focuses on the assaults of aging on two nuclear structures: the nuclear lamina and the nucleolus. The nuclear lamina is a protein structure found at the border of the nucleus that scaffolds heterochromatin and influences gene expression. Mutations to the lamina cause cardiovascular disease and accelerated aging. The Buchwalter lab seeks to understand the structure and function of the lamina in healthy, diseased, and aged states. The nucleolus is a phase-separated organelle that forms within the nucleus around actively transcribing ribosomal DNA (rDNA) repeats and produces ribosomes. The rDNA repeats are not mapped within the human reference genome and thus represent a “black box” about which comparatively little is known. However, rDNA function is intimately linked to aging, and recent work has uncovered a direct and predictable correlation between rDNA methylation and age. The Buchwalter lab is working to define the mechanisms and consequences of age-linked changes to rDNA and nucleolar function.</p>
Kaitlin	Casaleto	Kaitlin.Casaleto@ucsf.edu	<p>Cognitive Resilience and Precision Dementia Prevention</p> <p>Dr. Casaleto is a neuropsychologist at the UCSF Memory and Aging Center. Her research program aims to identify the biologic and behavioral drivers of dementia prevention. Her work incorporates extensive neuropsychological testing, surveys, and digital health measurement of lifestyle behaviors (e.g., Fitbit), as well as biological markers of brain aging across typically aging adults and those with neurodegenerative disease. Her work has particularly focused on applying novel molecular fluid biomarkers reflecting synaptic, glial, immune, and vascular functioning to highlight relevant neurobiological pathways related to resilient aging. Her overarching goal is to identify the neurobiology of resilient brain aging in a person-specific manner to uncover dementia prevention targets and precision therapies.</p>
Peggy	Cawthon	peggy.cawthon@ucsf.edu	<p>Peggy Cawthon, PhD, MPH https://profiles.ucsf.edu/peggy.cawthon peggy.cawthon@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Dr. Cawthon is PhD epidemiology who is Senior Scientist at California Pacific Medical Center/Sutter Health and adjunct faculty at UCSF. She leads many large cohort studies on aging and musculoskeletal health in older adults including MrOS, SOF, SOMMA, and MOST. She often mentors junior scientists in the use of these data. Dr. Cawthon’s research particularly focuses on sarcopenia, and she has led the development of definitions for this condition.</p>
Beth	Cohen	beth.cohen@ucsf.edu	<p>Beth Cohen, MD, MAS http://profiles.ucsf.edu/beth.cohen Email: beth.cohen@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Keywords: Cannabis policy and health impacts</p> <p>Dr. Cohen conducts research on national trends in cannabis use, perceptions of risk, and impacts on health. She has data on these topics available from a national longitudinal survey.</p>

Kelsey	Collins	kelsey.collins@ucsf.edu	<p>Kelsey H. Collins, PhD</p> <p>kelsey.collins@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Dr. Collins is an Assistant Professor in the UCSF Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Musculoskeletal Center. She leverages her interdisciplinary background in bioengineering, endocrinology, and physiology to determine molecular mechanisms of tissue crosstalk in musculoskeletal diseases. Previously, osteoarthritis, or the painful loss of cartilage lining our joints, was dismissed as an inevitable consequence of aging or mechanical overload. However, disproportionately, osteoarthritis is present in individuals with obesity, which involves both metabolic and biomechanical factors. A key link between these factors is excess adipose tissue. The Collins Lab is delineating which factors are involved in fat-cartilage signaling that contribute to osteoarthritis susceptibility and pain to generate a new class of regenerative medicine-based therapies using induced pluripotent stem cells, multi-omic approaches, and CRISPR-Cas9 genome engineering. As pathological fat signaling may play a role in many debilitating disease processes, the mechanisms and therapies we study have far-reaching implications to aging, obesity, diabetes and other chronic diseases.</p>
Lisa	Ellerby	lellerby@buckinstitute.org	<p>Lisa Ellerby, PhD</p> <p>lellerby@buckinstitute.org</p> <p>https://www.buckinstitute.org/lab/ellerby-lab/</p> <p>Many diseases that impact brain function develop during aging and affect the quality of life and our ability to live a successful healthy lifespan. These neurological diseases include Huntington's, Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's. The Ellerby lab focuses on understanding the fundamental mechanisms that lead to age-related neurodegenerative diseases and identifying new therapeutic targets for these diseases. We are excited to use new technologies to interrogate why these neurological diseases are so abundant as we age and identify small molecule or protein therapeutics for these diseases. Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC) derived from patient cells, genomics, proteomics, small molecule screens, single cell analysis, and CRISPR/Cas9 are all technologies applied to deepen our understanding of these diseases and aging.</p>
Sarah	Hooper	hoopers@uchastings.edu	<p>Sarah Hooper, JD</p> <p>https://expertfile.com/experts/sarah.hooper</p> <p>Email: hoopers@uchastings.edu</p> <p>Sarah Hooper is the Executive Director of the UCSF/UC Hastings Consortium on Law, Science & Health Policy and Adjunct Professor of Law at UC Hastings College of the Law. Through the Consortium, she develops interprofessional programs for faculty and students, including educational curricula and degrees, joint research, and clinical training and service programs. In particular, Sarah led the Consortium's effort to establish the Medical-Legal Partnership for Seniors clinic (MLPS) and now as its Policy Director is working to scale the model locally and nationally.</p> <p>Sarah's research focuses on legal issues in aging and dementia care, including health care decision making and informed consent, capacity, elder financial abuse, the link between health and access to civil justice, and models of comprehensive and coordinated care. She is a 2018 Leaders for Health Equity Fellow with George Washington University.</p> <p>Sarah teaches or has taught "Elder Law & Policy," "Law of End of Life Care," "Medical-Legal Partnership for Seniors Seminar," "Concentration in Law & Health Science Seminar," "Health Law: Research Compliance & Ethics" and "Master of Studies in Law for Healthcare Providers Seminar" at UC Hastings and is a frequent guest lecturer at UCSF.</p>

Alison	Huang	Alison.Huang@ucsf.edu	<p>Alison Huang, MD, MAS http://profiles.ucsf.edu/alison.huang Email: Alison.Huang@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Keywords: Genitourinary Aging, Older Women’s Health, Interpersonal Abuse, Menopause, Urinary Incontinence, Nocturia, Aging and Sexual Function</p> <p>Dr. Huang's research is directed at advancing understanding of the impact of chronological and reproductive aging on health and well-being in women. She has a particular interest in improving management of genitourinary aging in women, including atrophic changes in the urogenital tract, self-reported genitourinary symptoms, vaginal and urinary tract infections, and sexual function and related quality-of-life domains in older women. She has mentored five past MSTAR students on aging-related projects, all of which have involved national meeting presentations and authorship on peer-reviewed research publications for those students, as well as several students with national or international meeting presentation awards. Past projects involving medical students have included analyses of associations between interpersonal trauma on aging-associated functional decline in older women, treatment strategies for menopausal symptoms in women, elder abuse/mistreatment among older women and men who require help from caregivers or serve as caregivers for others, and treatment-seeking for urinary incontinence among older women of diverse backgrounds.</p>
Lauren	Hunt	lauren.hunt@ucsf.edu	<p>Lauren Hunt, PhD, RN, FNP https://profiles.ucsf.edu/lauren.hunt Email: lauren.hunt@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Keywords: Hospice, Palliative Care, Dementia, Pain, Symptoms Burden, Acute Care Use.</p> <p>Lauren Hunt's research focuses on two primary areas: 1) assessing symptom burden and palliative care needs of vulnerable older adults across care settings; and 2) evaluating hospice and palliative care models and policies for older adults with dementia. She primarily leverages nationally-representative surveys, such as the National Health and Aging Trends Study, the Health and Retirement Study, and Medicare administrative claims to approach her research.</p>
James	Iannuzzi	james.iannuzzi@ucsf.edu	<p>James Iannuzzi, MD, MPH Email: james.iannuzzi@ucsf.edu Surgery, Risk Assessment, Cognitive Impairment</p> <p>Dr. Iannuzzi’s work focuses on surgical outcomes and predictive modelling to identify high risk surgical candidates. His research uses large datasets to create clinically useful risk scores predicting the need for new post-surgical nursing home support or rehabilitation, and readmissions. Current projects also examine the impact of cognitive status on surgical outcomes. Students will have the opportunity to participate in literature reviews, analysis and interpretation of data, and manuscript preparation.</p>
Sarah	LaHue	Sara.LaHue@ucsf.edu	<p>Sara LaHue, MD https://profiles.ucsf.edu/sara.lahue Sara.Lahue@ucsf.edu Keywords: delirium, geriatrics, dementia, sleep, inpatient, geroscience</p> <p>Dr. LaHue is a neurologist who focuses exclusively on the care of adults in the hospital. Dr. LaHue studies delirium through several interdisciplinary lenses. Her main area of research is investigating delirium biomarkers and cognitive trajectories in older hospitalized adults. She also studies clinical predictors and outcomes associated with delirium through the UCSF Delirium Care Pathway, which collects daily delirium screening on every hospitalized patient across UCSF Health. Lastly, she studies sleep promotion using novel technologies with the hope of preventing hospital-acquired delirium.</p>

Jennifer	Lai	Jennifer.Lai@ucsf.edu	<p>Jennifer Lai, MD http://profiles.ucsf.edu/jennifer.lai Email: Jennifer.Lai@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Transplant hepatology, chronic viral hepatitis, autoimmune disorders, and cirrhosis, liver transplantation. Her 3 main areas of research include integrating core principles of geriatrics (e.g., frailty, disability, palliative care, multi-morbidity) to patients with cirrhosis; investigating disparities in organ allocation and distribution; and assessing the impact of liver donor quality on outcomes.</p> <p>Dr. Lai is the principal investigator for the NIH-funded Functional Assessment in Liver Transplantation (FrAILT) Study which aims to apply measures of frailty and functional status to patients with end-stage liver disease awaiting liver transplantation. Her central hypothesis is that applying principles of geriatric assessment to this population can improve our ability to identify patients who are vulnerable to adverse transplant outcomes. Her research lays the groundwork for therapeutic interventions aimed at "pre-habilitating" patients awaiting liver transplantation to improve their outcomes and quality of life.</p>
Courtney	Lyles	Courtney.Lyles@ucsf.edu	<p>Courtney Lyles, PhD https://profiles.ucsf.edu/courtney.lyles Email: Courtney.Lyles@ucsf.edu</p> <p>As a health services researcher with both quantitative and qualitative expertise, Dr. Lyles' research focuses on digital inclusion and digital health design, implementation, and evaluation for diverse and underserved populations. More specifically, she leads studies to train patients to be able to access digital technologies/interventions, as well as use these platforms to improve health behaviors and outcomes - with the ultimate goals of reducing health disparities. Dr. Lyles currently holds two R01s on mobile application design for patients with chronic disease at the San Francisco Health Network, is an associate director of the UCSF Program in Implementation Science, and co-directs the UCSF Population Health and Health Equity data projects.</p>
Anil	Makam	Anil.Makam@ucsf.edu	<p>Anil Makam, MD, MAS, Email: Anil.Makam@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Anil is an academic hospital medicine physician and a health services researcher. His research is at the intersection of geriatrics, hospital medicine, and post-acute care, specifically focusing on the role of long-term acute care hospitals (LTACs). His research interest stemmed from his simple observation that Dallas had many LTACs whereas San Francisco had very few, yet he cared for similarly sick and frail hospitalized older adults in both places. His research is funded by an NIA GEMSSTAR grant (2016-2018) and an NIA K23 Career Development Award (2016-2021). Dr. Makam applies health services research and epidemiological methods using Medicare claims, EHR data, and prospective cohort data to examine predictors and variation in LTAC use, comparative effectiveness of the LTAC model of care versus alternative care settings, and patterns of recovery for older adults transferred to LTACs.</p> <p>He has also continued to work at the interface of hospital medicine, quality of care, evidence-based medicine, and overuse, publishing several high impact studies in JAMA Internal Medicine, Circulation, BMJ Quality & Safety, and Journal of Hospital Medicine.</p> <p>He has successfully mentored MSTAR students in the past. His mentees have presented first-authored abstracts at the AGS Annual Meeting, with authorship on peer-reviewed publications. In addition to participating in a mentored research project, his summer mentorship program consists of two mentored self-guided curricula on epidemiology and statistical programming.</p>

Jean	Nakamura	Jean.Nakamura@ucsf.edu	<p>Jean Nakamura, MD https://nakamuralab.ucsf.edu/ Email: Jean.Nakamura@ucsf.edu Radiation, carcinogenesis, metabolism, longitudinal effects of radiation exposure, neurodegeneration</p> <p>Dr. Nakamura is a radiation oncologist whose laboratory studies radiation effects in diverse tissues, with a primary focus in carcinogenesis, which involves mechanisms that are shared with aging. The growing evidence that mutational processes in normal cells accumulate with age generates questions about the relationship between aging and cancer formation, which is a research focus for the Nakamura lab. Another area the lab studies relates to how radiation exposure influences normal tissue aging, which has specific relevance for human activities in space.</p>
Tien	Peng	Tien.Peng@ucsf.edu	<p>Tien Peng, MD https://profiles.ucsf.edu/tien.peng Tien.Pen@ucsf.edu</p> <p>The lung can be compartmentalized into the proximal conducting airways and the distal alveoli, each employing distinct stem/progenitors to support the divergent roles of each sub-compartment. An emerging paradigm is that the underlying stroma engages in complex feedback loops with the stem/progenitors to modulate their behavior. Despite their homogeneity in appearance, it is increasingly apparent that the lung stroma contains diverse subsets, each uniquely suited to maintain the nearest stem/progenitor population. Utilizing sophisticated mouse genetic models, population and single cell RNA sequencing, and human tissue studies, our lab is investigating how segregated stromal identities are maintained in distinct locales and context, and how disruption of those stromal identities can lead to human diseases and aging-related phenotypes.</p>
Elena	Portacolone	elena.portacolone@ucsf.edu	<p>Elena Portacolone, PhD, MBA, MPH https://profiles.ucsf.edu/elena.portacolone elena.portacolone@ucsf.edu Living Arrangements, Health Disparities, Cognitive Impairment, Aging in Place, Artificial Intelligence Applied to Dementia Research</p> <p>Dr. Portacolone is an Associate Professor of Sociology in the Institute for Health and Aging at UCSF and a Pepper Center Scholar at the Division of Geriatric Medicine at UCSF. Dr. Portacolone is also an alumna of the Butler-Williams program at the National Institute on Aging and of the Health Disparities Institute at the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities.</p> <p>Dr. Portacolone completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Turin, Italy. After working in the corporate sector in the United Kingdom, she completed an MPH degree at School of Public Health at UC Berkeley, an MBA degree at the Haas Business at UC Berkeley, and a PhD in Sociology in the Department of Social and Behavioral Science at UCSF.</p> <p>Dr. Portacolone has research experience in studying cognitive impairment, older adults who are racial/ethnic minorities, innovative recruitment strategies, as well as artificial intelligence and other technologies to support people with cognitive impairment age in place. She has led six investigations that focus on identifying barriers and facilitators to acute and long-term services and supports, increasing engagement of racial/ethnic minorities in dementia research, social integration, and emergency preparedness in vulnerable older adults, the majority of them living alone. The majority of study participants in her studies belong to racial/ethnic minorities. She has received extensive training in cognitive impairment, ethics, and advanced qualitative methods, as well as mixed methods.</p>

Urmimala	Sarkar	Urmimala.Sarkar@ucsf.edu	<p>Urmimala Sarkar, MD, MPH http://profiles.ucsf.edu/urmimala.sarkar Center for Vulnerable Populations Profile: http://cvp.ucsf.edu/faculty-usarkar.php Email: Urmimala.sarkar@ucsf.edu Twitter: UrmimalaSarkar</p> <p>Health Information Technology, Social Media, Patient Safety, Health Disparities, Health Literacy, Diabetes Mellitus Type 2</p> <p>Urmimala Sarkar MD, MPH is Professor of Medicine at UCSF in the Division of General Internal Medicine, Associate Director of the UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations, and a primary care physician at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital's Richard H. Fine People's Clinic. Her work centers on innovating for health equity, to improve the safety and quality of outpatient care for everyone, especially low-income and diverse populations. See more of the team's work on our website (link below). Dr. Sarkar believes that mentoring and training with commitment to diversity and inclusion are critical to achieving health equity. She is the director of UCSF's Primary Care Research Fellowship, co-directs the Learning Health Systems Early Career Acceleration Program (LEAP K12) for junior faculty, and serves as the curricular director for UCSF's Fellowship Advancement and Skills Training in Clinical Research (FASTCaR). She aims to catalyze health equity scholarship by mentoring students, residents, fellows, and junior faculty at UCSF and beyond.</p>
Anne	Suskind	Anne.Suskind@ucsf.edu	<p>Anne Suskind, MD MS http://profiles.ucsf.edu/anne.suskind Email: Anne.Suskind@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Urology, urinary incontinence, surgical decision making for older adults undergoing urologic surgery Dr. Suskind's current research aims to transform surgical decision-making for older individuals undergoing urologic surgery by studying long term outcomes (such as cognition and function) that matter to patients. Dr. Suskind's research leverages large national databases and innovative analytical techniques to address these important issues. Current projects include building a department-wide database of patients undergoing benign urologic surgery at UCSF combined with preoperative frailty testing and prospectively collecting data on the relationship between frailty and outcomes of various overactive bladder treatments (included pharmacological and procedural therapies).</p>
Melisa	Wong	Melisa.Wong@ucsf.edu	<p>Melisa Wong, MD, MAS http://profiles.ucsf.edu/melisa.wong Email: Melisa.Wong@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Geriatric oncology, lung cancer, geriatric assessment, treatment toxicity, quality of life</p> <p>Dr. Wong's research focuses on understanding and improving the care of older adults with lung cancer. She studies an expanded, patient-centered definition of cancer treatment toxicity that incorporates functional status, quality of life, and patient-reported symptoms to assist older adults and clinicians in making more informed treatment decisions. Students will have the opportunity to participate in conducting a cohort study of older adults with stage IV lung cancer receiving chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and/or targeted therapy and assist with analysis of quantitative and qualitative data.</p>

Kristine	Yaffe	kristine.yaffe@ucsf.edu	<p>Kristine Yaffe, MD http://profiles.ucsf.edu/kristine.yaffe Email: kristine.yaffe@ucsf.edu CONTACT TINA HOANG - tina.hoang@ucsf.edu</p> <p>Cognition Disorders, Dementia, Alzheimer Disease, Cognition, Aging</p> <p>Kristine Yaffe, MD is the Scola Endowed Chair and Vice Chair, Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry, Neurology and Epidemiology, and Director of the Center for Population Brain Health at the University of California, San Francisco. She also serves as Director of NeuroPsychiatry and of the Memory Evaluation Clinic at the San Francisco VA Medical Center. In both her research and in her clinical work, she has focused her efforts towards improving the care of patients with cognitive disorders and other geriatric neuropsychiatric conditions.</p> <p>Dr. Yaffe is an internationally recognized expert in the epidemiology of dementia and cognitive aging. She serves as PI of almost a dozen NIH, Department of Defense, Veterans Administration, and foundation grants and is the foremost leader in identifying modifiable risk factors for dementia. With over 600 peer-reviewed articles dedicated to improving population brain health (H-index=159 with publications in high impact journals such as the Lancet, JAMA, and NEJM), her work has formed the cornerstone for dementia prevention trials worldwide. Current studies focused on risk and resilience factors for dementia and cognitive aging include cardiovascular risk factors, lifestyle behaviors, sleep, traumatic brain injury, depression, social determinants of health, multi-domain interventions, and the life course.</p> <p>Dr. Yaffe received her medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. She completed residency training in both neurology and psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco. She then completed a combined fellowship in Clinical Epidemiology and Research Methods and Geriatric Psychiatry also at the University of California, San Francisco.</p>
Andrew	Yang	andrew.yang@ucsf.edu	<p>Andrew C. Yang, PhD https://www.https://www.yanglab-ucsf.org/ Email: andrew.yang@ucsf.edu Brain aging, dementia, blood-brain barrier, neuroimmunity, chemical biology, -omics</p> <p>Andrew is a Sandler Faculty Fellow in the Department of Anatomy and Bakar Aging Research Institute. We study how the blood-brain barrier (BBB) regulates brain health and aging. The BBB forms a unique shelter for the brain, critical for optimal neuronal function. Our lab develops new molecular approaches to decipher and engineer unexpected communication across the BBB. We recently developed proteome tagging and single-cell techniques to discover diverse protein transport across the BBB, the mechanisms of its impairments with age, and its associations with Alzheimer's disease. Our work could inform improved drug delivery to the brain and reveal new mechanisms governing brain health we can use to engineer greater resilience to neurodegeneration.</p>
Veronica	Yank	Veronica.Yank@ucsf.edu	<p>Veronica Yank, MD https://profiles.ucsf.edu/veronica.yank Veronica.Yank@ucsf.edu</p> <p>I am a primary care physician-investigator. My research focuses on informal (family/friend) caregivers and on improving care to prevent and manage chronic conditions in primary care, community, and home-based settings, particularly conditions associated with older adults, heavy caregiver burden (e.g., dementia), and elevated cardiovascular disease risk (e.g., diabetes, chronic kidney disease). I do health services research, community-based randomized controlled trials, and implementation studies using mixed methods with LatinX, urban, and rural underserved patients, families, and communities. I am core faculty within the Multiethnic Health Equity Research Center and Associate Director of the National Clinician Scholars Program at UCSF.</p>

Kai	Zhou	KZhou@buckinstitute.org	<p>Kai Zhou KZhou@buckinstitute.org https://www.buckinstitute.org/lab/zhou-lab/</p> <p>Proteins in a cell are metastable and not only threatened by the crowded cellular environment, but also affected by mutations, mistakes in translation and posttranslational modifications, and unpredictable environmental stresses. Proteins tend to misfold with age, which impairs protein homeostasis and is believed to be an underlying cause for many age-related diseases, including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. Protein homeostasis (proteostasis), maintained through balancing protein folding and misfolding, is the key for biological systems to live long and prosper, as almost all cellular functions are fulfilled by specific proteins. The Zhou lab studies mechanisms underlying the cellular aging process, with a particular emphasis on proteostasis. We study protein folding and misfolding in both young and aging cells, with the goal of understanding the events that lead to the loss of proteostasis during cellular aging and disease as well as identifying mechanisms that can be exploited to rejuvenate aging cells. Our lab uses the budding yeast <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> to study these topics systematically and comprehensively at the molecular and cellular levels. Budding yeast has been proven to be a great model system for research on cellular aging and revealed longevity mechanisms that are highly conserved in metazoan. By leveraging genetic tools and libraries, we hope to progress quickly on projects to provide insights for fundamental biological questions. We are also developing new methodologies and platforms to broaden our technology portfolio that can be unleashed to break through current limitations in the field and improve our understanding of aging and age-related diseases.</p>
Malene	Hansen	mhansen@buckinstitute.org	<p>Malene Hansen, PhD mhansen@buckinstitute.org https://www.buckinstitute.org/lab/hansen-lab/</p> <p>Dr. Hansen is a geneticist who studies the basic mechanisms of aging with a focus on the cellular recycling process called autophagy. During autophagy, cellular material including aggregated proteins but also organelles like mitochondria can be destined for degradation in lysosomes. Autophagy ensure cellular homeostasis, and in turn, autophagy has been linked to numerous age-related diseases, including neurodegenerative disorders and cancer. Our lab studies the role and regulation of autophagy in aging using both cell-culture models, as well as the short-lived and genetically tractable nematode <i>C. elegans</i>. Our basic studies bring important molecular information which may prove useful not only to better understanding human aging, but also ultimately provide therapeutic interventions to age-related disorder with dysfunctional autophagy.</p>
Roarke	Kamber	roarke.kamber@ucsf.edu	<p>Roarke Kamber, PhD https://anatomy.ucsf.edu/content/kamber-roarke-phd https://www.kamberlab.com/ email: roarke.kamber@ucsf.edu Macrophages, phagocytosis, cancer, CRISPR screening, lipids</p> <p>The Kamber lab is interested in understanding how macrophages detect and eliminate damaged cells that arise during the aging process. We apply powerful genetic screening approaches to discover molecules that regulate the ability of macrophages to destroy unwanted cells and use a combination of biochemical, cell biological, and in vivo experiments to understand how these components work at a mechanistic level. By defining novel inter-cellular signaling pathways governing macrophage function, we aim to potentiate the development of improved immunotherapies in cancer and other diseases marked by the accumulation of abnormal cells.</p>
Jonathan	Singer	jon.singer@ucsf.edu	<p>Jonathan Singer, MD MS jon.singer@ucsf.edu https://profiles.ucsf.edu/jonathan.singer Lung transplantation, Advanced Lung Disease, Patient Centered Outcomes, Frailty, Health Related Quality of Life, Body Composition, Sarcopenia, Disability, Clinical Research</p> <p>Dr. Singer is a pulmonologist specialized in lung transplantation. He is an Associate Professor of Medicine and patient-oriented researcher with formal training in epidemiology, biostatistics, and psychometrics. Clinically, he is the Associate Medical Director of the UCSF Advanced Lung Disease and Lung Transplant Program where he specializes in the care of patients advanced lung disease and patients undergoing lung transplantation.</p> <p>His research is founded on applying aging-related principles to study patient-centered outcomes in lung transplantation along three themes: 1) improving transplant candidate risk stratification by investigating frailty and body composition; 2) patient centered outcomes, including functioning, disability, health-related quality of life, and survival; and 3) developing and validating novel surveys and measures of frailty for use in advanced lung disease and lung transplantation. More broadly, he founded and direct the UCSF Advanced Lung Disease and Transplant research program, a cross-Departmental research cooperative that includes clinical, translational, and basic science investigators.</p>

Julie	Anderson	jandersen@buckinstitute.org	<p>Julie Andersen, PhD jandersen@buckinstitute.org https://www.buckinstitute.org/lab/andersen-lab/</p> <p>Dr. Andersen is a neuroscientist whose laboratory at the Buck Institute studies age-related neurodegenerative diseases including Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s. The bulk of research to date has concentrated on studying these disorders as independent entities, an approach which has yielded few, if any, affective treatments for either disease state. In contrast, in the Andersen lab we concentrate on what these orders have in common—the aging process itself. Current lab interest include the role of cellular senescence and autophagy/mitophagy, two important ‘pillars of aging, in driving these disorders towards identification of novel therapeutics.</p>
James	Harrison	james.harrison@ucsf.edu	<p>James Harrison MPH, PhD https://profiles.ucsf.edu/james.harrison Email: james.harrison@ucsf.edu Hospital Medicine, Geriatrics, Care Transitions, Patient & Community Engagement, Implementation Science</p> <p>Dr. James Harrison is PhD trained researcher in the UCSF Division of Hospital Medicine. James is a researcher and implementation scientist who uses patient and stakeholder engagement to improve hospital care delivery and the hospital care transitions of older adults. His vision is to transform health systems so that older adults are at the center of innovation discovery. He seeks to develop hospital-based interventions through a co-design process that brings the patient and other stakeholder voice to the forefront. Using qualitative and mixed-methods methodologies, interventions are then implemented that are sustained in real-world clinical settings. Examples of interventions include telehealth, inpatient mobility and function programs, patient life stories, and decision aids.</p>