

The San Diego County Medical Society and San Diego Magazine present:

## **Top Doctors 2009 – The List Physicians of Exceptional Excellence**

The San Diego County Medical Society (SDCMS), working collaboratively with San Diego Magazine for six years now, has continued and will continue to evolve our process for identifying those board-certified physicians within the county who are held in highest regard by their peers.

Measures of quality in healthcare are complex, varying by user and by intent. San Diego County's physicians and patients alike understand that no process for identifying our communities' many "top doctors"—however carefully constructed—will be without its limitations. Our voting process, which has always been and will remain transparent, is the following: SDCMS member physicians vote for those board-certified doctors who practice within San Diego County to whom they would refer their patients and family members. Recognizing that physicians often know more about those in other specialties to whom they refer patients, SDCMS has evolved our process to allowing physicians to vote across specialties. Only one in 20 physicians was peer-selected. Each selectee was then reviewed by SDCMS to confirm his or her board certification, Medical Board of California standing and current practice status.

This year's process resulted in 475 physicians being honored by their peers. This list, which is by no means complete—some highly competent doctors may be missing from it—should be used carefully as a guide (recognized through one process and as one factor only) when choosing one for your own needs. The best choice of a physician for a given patient may include patient-specific factors and intangibles that are best discussed with your personal doctor when a referral is needed. Nurses and other healthcare professionals can add insight into selecting a well-respected physician who best suits your individual needs. None of this should detract, however, from the recognition that those on this list fully deserve. These individuals have been identified by their peers as physicians to whom they would entrust the care of their own family members and patients. Among these honorees, 33 have been recognized by their peers in each of the past six years, 64 for five of the past six years and 54 for four of the past six years. There is no greater compliment one can receive from one's colleagues!

All San Diego County physicians are encouraged to participate in the work of organized medicine as we implement the SDCMS vision—"Physicians United for a Healthy San Diego."

Congratulations to all the doctors honored!

Lisa S. Miller  
President, San Diego County Medical Society

### **Radiology**

[Brian J. Shore, MD](#)

### **Vascular Surgery**

[Mark M. Sedwitz, MD, FACS](#)