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TOP

Picking a physician is no easy task.
Luckily, we've done the homework.

BY THE EDITORS

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Finding the ideal practitioner to handle all of your health-care needs is one of the most important tasks you'll ever undertake, especially during today's challenging times. After all, this is the individual you will rely on to advise, educate, examine, and treat you, as well as assist you when it comes to making key decisions about your overall well-being. That's why it's paramount to initiate a relationship with someone credible you can trust wholeheartedly, and with whom you feel comfortable discussing any concerns that might arise. Too often, however, individuals don't even know how to begin the process of locating the right doctor. So to help you with this difficult yet essential task, we've joined with health-care and research company Castle Connolly Medical Ltd. to assemble a list of the Bay Area's top doctors by specialties. Founded in 1992 by a former medical college board chairman and president, the company's mission is to guide consumers to America's top doctors and hospitals via a rigorous screening process used to choose the top regional and national doctors. That means doctors do not, and cannot pay to appear on the list. Instead, it all begins with Castle Connolly's established nomination survey, followed by research, screening and the selection process. Overseen by an MD, the vast undertaking involves a team of physicians, academic medical centers, specialty hospitals, and regional and community hospitals nationwide. The online nomination process ([at castleconnolly.com/nominations](http://castleconnolly.com/nominations)) is open to all licensed physicians in the U.S., who are asked to recommend doctors in any medical specialty and in any part of the country, as well as to indicate whether they feel that the nominated physician is among the best in their region or nation in their area of specialty. The doctors' educational and professional experience is then carefully screened before a final selection is made. The result? A list of top doctors who not only are highly regarded among their peers, but also designed to offer you the best fit for your particular medical needs.