



Mark A Underwood, M.D., M.A.S.

Philosophy of Care

Caring for a premature or sick newborn requires a team of dedicated professionals. I love working with parents, nurses, pharmacists, respiratory therapists, dietitians, social workers, and specialists to provide the very best care for these fragile little guys.

Clinical Interests

Dr. Underwood's clinical activities are in the care of premature and sick newborn infants. His research interests include necrotizing enterocolitis, development of intestinal innate immunity, and mechanisms of probiotics and prebiotics in pre-term infants.

Research projects include clinical trials of probiotics and prebiotics in premature infants, assessment of Paneth cell antimicrobial expression in infants with necrotizing enterocolitis, and evaluation of Paneth cell expression in newborn rats.

Research/Academic Interests

Dr. Underwood's research is focused on prevention of common health problems of very premature infants, including necrotizing enterocolitis, sepsis, and poor growth after birth.

This includes discovery of the mechanisms by which human milk protects the intestinal tract, and how human milk and probiotics work together to shape the composition of the intestinal microbiota and influence the baby's developing immune system.

Title Chief of Neonatology

Professor

Specialty Neonatology

Department [Pediatrics](#)

Division Neonatology

Center/Program Affiliation [UC Davis Children's Hospital](#)

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Education M.D., University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, Texas, 1987

M.A.S., UC Davis, Davis, California, 2008

B.A., Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, 1983

Internships UCLA, Los Angeles, California, 1988

Residency UCLA, Los Angeles, California, 1990



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Fellowships UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, California, 2006

Board Certifications American Board of Pediatrics, 2004
American Board of Pediatrics, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, 2008

Professional Memberships Fellow, American Academy of Pediatrics
Society for Pediatric Research
Western Society for Pediatric Research

Honors and Awards UC Davis Chancellor's award for Innovator of the Year, 2020
Dean's Team Award for Excellence, 2013
Eli Gold Faculty Achievement prize, 2012
Alice Litman Moss Pediatric Resident award, 1990
Karl G Maeser Scholar, 1982
National Merit Scholar, 1977
Brigham Young University Trustee Scholar, 1977

Select Recent Publications To view a list of Dr. Underwood's publications, please visit his PubMed page [here](#).

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