Physician Directory

health.ucsd.edu
Patient Access: 800-926-8273
Physician Access: 855-543-0555
UC San Diego Health Physician Directory

From routine doctor visits to the most advanced procedures, our doctors are here for you. Our specialty care for complex conditions — including cancer, heart disease, neurosurgery, pulmonology and more — is rated among the nation’s best by *U.S. News & World Report*.

**For Patients**

**Make an Appointment**
Whether you need to be seen for an urgent condition today or are looking for a new primary care physician or specialty care provider, we can help. Call **800-926-8273** between 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

[health.ucsd.edu/request_appt](http://health.ucsd.edu/request_appt)

**Find a Provider**
Search by name, specialty, location or keyword to find the right provider for you.

[providers.ucsd.edu](http://providers.ucsd.edu)

**Physician Access Services**

**Refer a Patient or Request Consultation**
Call Physician Access Services at **855-543-0555** from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Transfer an Inpatient**
For hospital-to-hospital transfers, call **619-543-5709** (24-hour service) for instructions.
## Locations

### La Jolla
- **La Jolla Emergency**
  - Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
  - 9434 Medical Center Drive
  - La Jolla, CA 92037

- **La Jolla Urgent Care**
  - 8910 Villa La Jolla Drive
  - La Jolla, CA 92037

- **Orthopedics Urgent Care**
  - Sports Medicine
  - 4520 Executive Drive, Suite Plaza 1
  - San Diego, CA 92121

- **8450 and 4520 Executive Drive**
  - San Diego, CA 92121

- **8910 Villa La Jolla Drive**
  - La Jolla, CA 92037

- **8899 and 8929 University Center Lane**
  - San Diego, CA 92122

- **8939 Villa La Jolla Drive**
  - La Jolla, CA 92037

- **9333 Genesee Avenue**
  - San Diego, CA 92121

- **8950 Villa La Jolla Drive**
  - La Jolla, CA 92037

- **9350 Campus Point Drive**
  - La Jolla, CA 92037

- **Shiley Eye Institute**
  - 9415 Campus Point Drive
  - La Jolla, CA 92037

- **Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**
  - 9434 Medical Center Drive
  - La Jolla, CA 92037

### Moores Cancer Center
- 3855 Health Sciences Drive
- La Jolla, CA 92093

### Jacobs Medical Center
- 9300 Campus Point Drive
- La Jolla, CA 92037

### Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
- 9400 Campus Point Drive
- La Jolla, CA 92037

### Perlman Medical Offices
- 9350 Campus Point Drive
- La Jolla, CA 92037

### Hillcrest
- **Hillcrest Emergency**
  - UC San Diego Medical Center
  - 200 West Arbor Drive
  - San Diego, CA 92103

- **4th and Lewis Medical Offices**
  - 330 Lewis Street
  - San Diego, CA 92103

- **Medical Offices North**
  - 200 West Arbor Drive
  - San Diego, CA 92103

- **Medical Offices South**
  - 4168 Front Street
  - San Diego, CA 92103

- **UC San Diego Medical Center**
  - 200 West Arbor Drive
  - San Diego, CA 92103

### Rancho Bernardo
- **Rancho Bernardo Urgent Care**
  - 16950 Via Tazon
  - San Diego, CA 92127

### Encinitas
- **Encinitas**
  - Includes **Encinitas Express Care (Suite 110)**
  - 1200 Garden View Road
  - Encinitas, CA 92024

- **477 North El Camino Real**
  - Encinitas, CA 92024

### College Area
- **6719 Alvarado Road, Suite 302**
  - San Diego, CA 92120

### Downtown
- **Downtown Express Care**
  - 203 West F Street
  - San Diego, CA 92101

### Vista
- **910 Sycamore Avenue**
  - Vista, CA 92081

### Sorrento Valley
- **4910 Directors Place**
  - San Diego, CA 92121

### Scripps Ranch
- **9909 Mira Mesa Blvd, Suite 200**
  - San Diego, CA 92131

### Kearny Mesa
- **7910 Frost Street**
  - San Diego, CA 92123

### Chula Vista
- **959 Lane Avenue**
  - Chula Vista, CA 91914

### Temecula
- **31720 Temecula Parkway, Suite 100**
  - Temecula, CA 92592
# Table of Contents

**Anesthesiology**
- Critical Care ................................................................. 1

**Cancer**
- Breast Cancer .................................................................. 1
- Gastrointestinal Cancers .................................................. 1
- Gynecological Cancers ..................................................... 1
- Head & Neck Cancers ....................................................... 1
- Immunotherapy ................................................................ 1
- Leukemia & Lymphoma .................................................... 1
- Lung Cancer .................................................................... 2
- Melanoma / Skin Cancers .................................................. 1
- Neurological Oncology ..................................................... 1
- Pancreatic Cancer ............................................................ 1
- Precision Medicine ........................................................ 1
- Psychosocial Oncology ..................................................... 1
- Sarcoma (Bone and Soft Tissue) ....................................... 1
- Urologic Cancer .............................................................. 1

**Cardiology**
- Electrophysiology .......................................................... 3
- General Cardiology ........................................................ 4
- Heart Failure ................................................................... 6
- Interventional Cardiology ................................................. 1

**Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery**
- Adult Congenital Heart Defects ....................................... 1
- Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) ....................... 1

**Nephrology (Kidney)**
- Apheresis ........................................................................ 8
- Chronic Kidney Disease ................................................ 9
- Critical Care Nephrology ................................................ 10
- Dialysis ........................................................................... 11
- Transplant Nephrology ................................................... 11

**Neurology**
- Dementia ........................................................................ 11
- Epilepsy ........................................................................... 11
- Headache ........................................................................ 11
- Movement Disorders .................................................... 11
- Neurocritical Care ........................................................ 11
- Stroke ............................................................................. 11

**Pulmonology (Lung)**
- Asthma ........................................................................... 11
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease ......................... 11
- Critical Care ................................................................... 11
- Interventional Pulmonology .......................................... 12
- Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) ...................... 12
- Pulmonary Vascular Disease .......................................... 13

**Stroke Care** .................................................................... 14

**Surgery**
- Critical Care ................................................................... 15
- General and Gastrointestinal Surgery ............................. 15
- Hepatobiliary Surgery ................................................... 15
- Minimally Invasive Surgery ............................................ 15
- Surgical Oncology ........................................................ 15
- Thyroid and Parathyroid Surgery .................................. 15
- Trauma ............................................................................ 15

**Transplantation**
- Heart Transplantation .................................................... 16
- Kidney Transplantation .................................................. 16
- Liver Transplantation .................................................... 16
- Lung Transplantation ..................................................... 16
- Pancreas Transplantation ............................................... 16

Index .................................................................................. 17
Anesthesiology

Anesthesiology is the medical specialty that involves the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care for patients in the administration of medications to control pain and support life functions during surgery. Learn more about anesthesiology services at UC San Diego Health System.

Dalia A. Banks, MD, FASE
Division Chief, Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology
Professor of Anesthesiology

Specialty:
Anesthesiology

Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273

Bio:
Dalia A. Banks, MD, is a board-certified anesthesiologist who specializes in cardiothoracic anesthesia. Cardiothoracic anesthesiologists provide anesthesia for people undergoing surgical procedures which may involve the heart, lungs, esophagus, and other organs in the chest.
Cancer - Lung Cancer

Patricia Thistlethwaite, MD, PhD
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Transplantation, Cancer, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Heart Transplantation, Lung Cancer

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7777

Bio:
Patricia A. Thistlethwaite, MD, PhD, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in lung cancer, mediastinal and chest wall surgery, diseases of the thymus, minimally invasive thoracic surgery, and heart and lung transplantation. She focuses on providing patient-centered clinical care, using minimally invasive approaches to treat thoracic disease.
Cardiology - Electrophysiology

Ulrika Birgersdotter-Green, MD
Director, Pacemaker and ICD Services
Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Cardiology

**Subspecialty:**
Electrophysiology

**Add'l Languages:**
French, German, Swedish

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

**Bio:**
Ulrika Birgersdotter-Green, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in diagnosing and treating heart rhythm disorders. She directs the [Pacemaker and ICD (Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator) Service] at UC San Diego Health and leads one of the largest lead extraction programs in the Western United States.
Cardiology - General Cardiology

**Lori B. Daniels, MD, FACC**  
Director, Coronary Care Unit  
Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:** Cardiology  
**Subspecialty:** General Cardiology  
**Add'l Language:** Spanish

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

**Bio:**  
Lori B. Daniels, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist. She works with patients on prevention of cardiovascular disease, as well as management of coronary disease, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, and other cardiovascular problems.

---

**Anna McDivit Mizzell, MD**  
Cardiologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:** Cardiology  
**Subspecialty:** General Cardiology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center  
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

**Bio:**  
Anna McDivit Mizzell, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in atherosclerotic heart disease, congestive heart failure, and women's cardiovascular health. She provides cardiac care for people before and after receiving solid organ transplants and works closely with the transplant teams at UC San Diego Health.

---

**Anya Narezkina, MD**  
Cardiologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:** Cardiology  
**Subspecialty:** General Cardiology  
**Add'l Language:** Russian

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530  
Direct Clinic Line - Rancho Bernardo: (858) 605-4448

**Bio:**  
Anya Narezkina, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who works with patients to diagnose and prevent heart disease, as well as manage conditions such as hypertension (high blood pressure), coronary artery disease, or heart failure.
Jia Shen, MD  
Cardiologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**  
Cardiology

**Subspecialty:**  
General Cardiology

**Add'l Language:**  
Mandarin

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Encinitas - El Camino Real  
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line - Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center: (858) 657-8530  
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (858) 657-8530  
Direct Clinic Line - Encinitas: (760) 697-3110

**Bio:**  
Jia Shen, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in the treatment and prevention of heart disease.

---

Pam R. Taub, MD, FACC  
Cardiologist  
Director of Step Family Foundation Cardiovascular Rehabilitation and Wellness Center  
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**  
Cardiology

**Subspecialty:**  
General Cardiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Jacobs Medical Center

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line - Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center: (858) 657-8530  
Direct Clinic Line - Cardiac Rehabilitation Center: (858) 249-1308

**Bio:**  
Pam R. Taub, MD, FACC, is a board-certified cardiologist who focuses on general and preventive cardiology, as well as women's cardiovascular health.
Cardiology - Heart Failure

Denise Dayle Barnard, MD
Director, Women's Cardiovascular Health Program
Assistant Director, Advanced Heart Failure Program,
Cardiac Transplantation & Mechanical Circulatory Assist
Device Program
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cardiology, Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5743

Bio:
Denise Barnard, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who is actively involved in UC San Diego Health's Advanced Heart Failure, Cardiac Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Assist Device Programs. She is a nationally recognized heart failure expert and also practices at the VA San Diego Healthcare.
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery

Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery specializes in operations to the heart, chest or both — generally includes treatment for heart and lung diseases and conditions. Learn more about cardiothoracic (heart and lung) surgery at UC San Diego Health System.

Joelle M. Coletta, MD, FACS
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273

Bio:
Joelle Coletta, MD, is a cardiothoracic surgeon and chief of the cardiothoracic surgery section at the Veterans Administration Hospital affiliated with UC San Diego. She also performs both cardiac and thoracic operations at Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center.

Patricia Thistlethwaite, MD, PhD
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Transplantation, Cancer, Surgery
Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Heart Transplantation, Lung Cancer

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7777

Bio:
Patricia A. Thistlethwaite, MD, PhD, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in lung cancer, mediastinal and chest wall surgery, diseases of the thymus, minimally invasive thoracic surgery, and heart and lung transplantation. She focuses on providing patient-centered clinical care, using minimally invasive approaches to treat thoracic disease.
Nephrology (Kidney) - Apheresis

Natalie Sweiss, MD, FASN
Nephrologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Nephrology (Kidney)

Subspecialties:
Chronic Kidney Disease, Critical Care Nephrology, Apheresis

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6397

Bio:
Natalie Sweiss, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist who cares for patients with kidney disease including chronic kidney disease, end-stage kidney disease and acute kidney injury. She provides apheresis and hemodialysis treatments to chronic and acute patients.
Nephrology (Kidney) - Chronic Kidney Disease

Natalie Sweiss, MD, FASN
Nephrologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Nephrology (Kidney)

Subspecialties:
Chronic Kidney Disease, Critical Care Nephrology, Apheresis

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6397

Bio:
Natalie Sweiss, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist who cares for patients with kidney disease including chronic kidney disease, end-stage kidney disease and acute kidney injury. She provides apheresis and hemodialysis treatments to chronic and acute patients.
Nephrology (Kidney) - Critical Care Nephrology

Natalie Sweiss, MD, FASN
Nephrologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Nephrology (Kidney)

Subspecialties:
Chronic Kidney Disease, Critical Care Nephrology, Apheresis

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6397

Bio:
Natalie Sweiss, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist who cares for patients with kidney disease including chronic kidney disease, end-stage kidney disease and acute kidney injury. She provides apheresis and hemodialysis treatments to chronic and acute patients.
Neurology - Stroke

Royya Modir, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspecialty:
Stroke
Add'l Language:
Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Royya Modir, MD, is a board-certified neurologist specializing in vascular neurology and the treatment of stroke. Her focus is on treatment strategies for stroke prevention and using thrombolytics for the treatment of acute stroke.
Pulmonology (Lung) - Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Kim M. Kerr, MD
Professor of Medicine
Vice Chief, Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7100

Bio:
Kim M. Kerr, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist. Her clinical and research interests are in chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension and critical care. Dr. Kerr attends on the pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE), the ICU, and pulmonary consult services. She is involved in both inpatient and outpatient clinical trials studying pulmonary vascular disease and critical care medicine.
Pulmonology (Lung) - Pulmonary Vascular Disease

Kim M. Kerr, MD
Professor of Medicine
Vice Chief, Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine

**Specialty:**
Pulmonology (Lung)

**Subspecialties:**
Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**
Jacobs Medical Center

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7100

**Bio:**
Kim M. Kerr, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist. Her clinical and research interests are in chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension and critical care. Dr. Kerr attends on the pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE), the ICU, and pulmonary consult services. She is involved in both inpatient and outpatient clinical trials studying pulmonary vascular disease and critical care medicine.
Stroke Care

Stroke care is the medical treatment for a stroke — when the blood supply to part of your brain is interrupted or severely reduced, resulting in the sudden death of brain cells. Learn more about stroke care at UC San Diego Health System.

Royya Modir, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspecialty:
Stroke
Add'l Language:
Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Royya Modir, MD, is a board-certified neurologist specializing in vascular neurology and the treatment of stroke. Her focus is on treatment strategies for stroke prevention and using thrombolytics for the treatment of acute stroke.
Surgery
The branch of medicine that uses surgery in the treatment of disease, injury or disorders. Learn more about surgery at UC San Diego Health System.

Joelle M. Coletta, MD, FACS
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273

Bio:
Joelle Coletta, MD, is a cardiothoracic surgeon and chief of the cardiothoracic surgery section at the Veterans Administration Hospital affiliated with UC San Diego. She also performs both cardiac and thoracic operations at Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center.

Surgery - Minimally Invasive Surgery

Patricia Thistlethwaite, MD, PhD
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Transplantation, Cancer, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Heart Transplantation, Lung Cancer

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7777

Bio:
Patricia A. Thistlethwaite, MD, PhD, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in lung cancer, mediastinal and chest wall surgery, diseases of the thymus, minimally invasive thoracic surgery, and heart and lung transplantation. She focuses on providing patient-centered clinical care, using minimally invasive approaches to treat thoracic disease.
Transplantation - Heart Transplantation

Denise Dayle Barnard, MD  
Director, Women's Cardiovascular Health Program  
Assistant Director, Advanced Heart Failure Program, Cardiac Transplantation & Mechanical Circulatory Assist Device Program  
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:  
Cardiology, Transplantation

Subspecialties:  
Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

Bio:  
Denise Barnard, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who is actively involved in UC San Diego Health's Advanced Heart Failure, Cardiac Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Assist Device Programs. She is a nationally recognized heart failure expert and also practices at the VA San Diego Healthcare.

Patricia Thistlethwaite, MD, PhD  
Cardiothoracic Surgeon  
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:  
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Transplantation, Cancer, Surgery

Subspecialties:  
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Heart Transplantation, Lung Cancer

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5743

Bio:  
Patricia A. Thistlethwaite, MD, PhD, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in lung cancer, mediastinal and chest wall surgery, diseases of the thymus, minimally invasive thoracic surgery, and heart and lung transplantation. She focuses on providing patient-centered clinical care, using minimally invasive approaches to treat thoracic disease.
Index

B
Banks, Dalia A. ....................................................... 1
Barnard, Denise Dayle .................................... 6, 16
Birgersdotter-Green, Ulrika .......................... 3

C
Coletta, Joelle M. ................................. 7, 15

D
Daniels, Lori B. ................................. 4

K
Kerr, Kim M. ...................................................... 12, 13.

M
McDivit Mizzell, Anna ................................. 4.
Modir, Royya ................................................. 11, 14.

N
Narezkina, Anya ................................. 4.

S
Shen, Jia .......................................................... 5.
Sweiss, Natalie ............................................. 8, 9, 10.

T
Taub, Pam R. ................................. 5.
Thistlethwaite, Patricia ............................... 2, 7, 15, 16.