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*.

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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.

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Cancer - Gastrointestinal Cancers

Shumei Kato, MD  
Medical Oncologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:  
Medical Oncology, Cancer  
Subspecialties:  
Gastrointestinal Cancers, Precision Medicine  
Add'l Language:  
Japanese

Moores Cancer Center  
Jacobs Medical Center  
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-2372

Bio:  
Shumei Kato, MD, is a board-certified medical oncologist who specializes in treating rare cancers and gastrointestinal tumors. He uses numerous forms of therapy such as chemotherapy, biological therapy, immunotherapy and targeted therapy to offer the best possible treatment options for his patients. Dr. Kato has a special interest in targeted molecular therapy and his approach to care emphasizes personalized medicine and experimental therapeutics.
Cancer - Precision Medicine

Shumei Kato, MD
Medical Oncologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Medical Oncology, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Gastrointestinal Cancers, Precision Medicine

Add'l Language:
Japanese

Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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Cancer - Urologic Cancer

Kyoko Sakamoto, MD
Urologist
Professor of Urology

Specialties:
Urology, Cancer, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Urologic Cancer, Urologic Cancer

Add'l Language:
Japanese

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (866) 773-2703

Bio:
Kyoko Sakamoto, MD, is a board-certified urologist who specializes in laparoscopy and endourology. Her additional interests are neurourology and general urology.
Cardiology - Heart Failure

Victor (Gert) Pretorius, MBChB
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Surgical Director of Heart Transplant
Associate Professor of Surgery

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

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Heart Transplantation, Lung Transplantation

Add'l Language:
Afrikaans

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Victor (Gert) Pretorius, MBChB, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in lead management. Pacemakers and implantable cardioverter-defibrillators (ICDs) deliver energy to the heart through thin, flexible wires called leads. When these leads are not working properly – because of infection, damage, or surrounding scar tissue – they need to be removed. Dr. Pretorius performs a minimally invasive procedure called laser lead extraction to cut through scar tissue surrounding the lead, allowing it to be easily removed.
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery - Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Victor (Gert) Pretorius, MBChB  
Cardiothoracic Surgeon  
Surgical Director of Heart Transplant  
Associate Professor of Surgery

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

Subspecialties:  
Heart Failure, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Heart Transplantation, Lung Transplantation

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Family Medicine

Family Medicine provides health care for all ages, genders and diseases — it is focused on knowledge of the patient in the context of family and community — stressing disease prevention and health promotion. Learn more about family medicine at UC San Diego Health.

Anna Van Niekerk, DO
Primary Care Physician

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine

Add'l Languages:
Afrikaans, Spanish

Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon

Contact:
Registration and Scheduling: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 605-4452

Bio:
Anna Van Niekerk, DO, is a board-certified family medicine doctor dedicated to practicing the full breadth of primary care and caring for patients of all ages, including children, adults, and seniors. She provides preventative care, as well as the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic conditions. Dr. Van Niekerk also sees patients for dermatological concerns and women's health.
Gastroenterology

Gastroenterology is the branch of medicine concerned with the structure, functions, diseases and pathology of the stomach and the intestines — including digestive diseases. Learn more about gastroenterology at UC San Diego Health.

Yuko Kono, MD, PhD
Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist
Professor of Medicine and Radiology

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Transplantation, Hepatology (Liver)
Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation
Add'l Language:
Japanese

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5415

Bio:
Yuko Kono, MD, PhD is a hepatologist with a special interest in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) surveillance, diagnosis, management, general hepatology and liver transplantation. She is an expert in contrast enhanced ultrasound imaging.
Hepatology (Liver)

Hepatology is a medical specialty that incorporates the study of the liver, gallbladder, biliary tract, and pancreas as well as management of their disorders. Learn more about hepatology at UC San Diego Health.

Yuko Kono, MD, PhD
Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist
Professor of Medicine and Radiology

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Transplantation, Hepatology (Liver)

Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation

Add'l Language:
Japanese

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Medical Oncology

Medical oncology focuses on the diagnosis and treatment of all types of cancer and other benign and malignant tumors. Medical oncologists administer therapy for these malignancies and collaborate with surgical and radiation oncologists to provide cancer treatments. Learn more about cancer care at UC San Diego Health.

Shumei Kato, MD
Medical Oncologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Medical Oncology, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Gastrointestinal Cancers, Precision Medicine

Add'l Language:
Japanese

Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
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Occupational/Environmental Medicine

UC San Diego Health’s Occupational and Environmental Medicine provides the San Diego area with a full range of services for prevention and compliance assistance; work injury treatment and management; blood borne pathogen exposure; vaccinations; and case coordination. Learn more about occupational and environmental medicine at UC San Diego Health.

Marcia Isakari, MD, MPH
Occupational Medicine Physician
Medical Director, Occupational and Environmental Medicine

Specialty:
Occupational/Environmental Medicine

Add'l Languages:
Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish

La Jolla - 8899 University Center Lane
Hillcrest - 4th & Lewis Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 471-9210

Bio:
Marcia Isakari, MD, MPH, is a board-certified occupational medicine physician. She has extensive clinical and leadership experience directing occupational medicine clinics and delivering clinical services to employers in virtually all industrial sectors, including biotech/life sciences/technology, public entity, and manufacturing.
Orthopedics - Sports Medicine

Kenneth Vitale, MD
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Specialist
Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine

Subspeciality:
Sports Medicine

Add'l Language:
Japanese

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8200

Bio:
Kenneth Vitale, MD, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who specializes in sports medicine and sports nutrition. As a physical medicine and rehabilitation physician (also known as a physiatrist), Dr. Vitale's expertise is in guiding individuals with orthopedic conditions through a variety of nonsurgical treatment options.
Kenneth Vitale, MD
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Specialist
Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine

Subspecialty:
Sports Medicine

Add'l Language:
Japanese

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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Kenneth Vitale, MD, is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who specializes in sports medicine and sports nutrition. As a physical medicine and rehabilitation physician (also known as a physiatrist), Dr. Vitale's expertise is in guiding individuals with orthopedic conditions through a variety of nonsurgical treatment options.
Primary Care

Primary care is the basic level of medical care at which a patient is evaluated and treated by a nurse or physician, and if necessary, is then referred to a medical specialist. Learn more about primary care at UC San Diego Health.

Anna Van Niekerk, DO
Primary Care Physician

Specialties:
Primary Care, Family Medicine

Add'l Languages:
Afrikaans, Spanish

Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon

Contact:
Registration and Scheduling: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line:: (858) 605-4452

Bio:
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Sports Medicine

Sports medicine is the branch of medicine concerned with the treatment of injuries or illnesses from athletic activities. Learn more about sports medicine at UC San Diego Health.

Kenneth Vitale, MD
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Specialist
Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Specialties:
Orthopedics, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine
Subspecialty:
Sports Medicine
Add'l Language:
Japanese

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

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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.

**Victor (Gert) Pretorius, MBChB**  
Cardiothoracic Surgeon  
Surgical Director of Heart Transplant  
Associate Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Cardiology, Surgery, Transplantation

**Subspecialties:**  
Heart Failure, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Heart Transplantation, Lung Transplantation

**Add'l Language:**  
Afrikaans

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

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Surgery - Minimally Invasive Surgery

Kyoko Sakamoto, MD
Urologist
Professor of Urology

Specialties:
Urology, Cancer, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Urologic Cancer, Urologic Cancer

Additional Language:
Japanese

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (866) 773-2703

Bio:
Kyoko Sakamoto, MD, is a board-certified urologist who specializes in laparoscopy and endourology. Her additional interests are neurourology and general urology.
Transplantation - Heart Transplantation

Victor (Gert) Pretorius, MBChB
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Surgical Director of Heart Transplant
Associate Professor of Surgery

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

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Heart Transplantation, Lung Transplantation

Additional Language:
Afrikaans

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Transplantation - Liver Transplantation

Yuko Kono, MD, PhD
Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist
Professor of Medicine and Radiology

Specialties:
Gastroenterology, Transplantation, Hepatology (Liver)

Subspecialty:
Liver Transplantation

Add'l Language:
Japanese

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
La Jolla - 4510 Executive Drive

Contact:
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Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5415

Bio:
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Transplantation - Lung Transplantation

Victor (Gert) Pretorius, MBChB
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Surgical Director of Heart Transplant
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Cardiology, Surgery,
Transplantation
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Heart Failure, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Heart
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Add'l Language:
Afrikaans

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removed. Dr. Pretorius performs a minimally invasive procedure called laser
lead extraction to cut through scar tissue surrounding the lead, allowing it to
be easily removed.
Urology - Urologic Cancer

Kyoko Sakamoto, MD
Urologist
Professor of Urology

Specialties:
Urology, Cancer, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Urologic Cancer, Urologic Cancer

Add'l Language:
Japanese

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (866) 773-2703

Bio:
Kyoko Sakamoto, MD, is a board-certified urologist who specializes in laparoscopy and endourology. Her additional interests are neurology and general urology.
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