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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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
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Surgical Director of Heart Transplant
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Emergency Medicine - Disaster Medicine

Irving Jacoby, MD
Attending Physician, Dept of Emergency Medicine & Hyperbaric Medicine
Emeritus Clinical Professor of Medicine & Surgery

Specialty:
Emergency Medicine

Subspecialties:
Disaster Medicine, Hyperbaric Medicine & Wound Care

Add'l Language:
Hebrew

Encinitas - North El Camino Real
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (760) 452-2222

Bio:
After 32 years of working in the Emergency Department, I will be taking retirement from UC San Diego, but look forward to maintaining my ties with the department on a part-time basis in the future. I will be continuing my work with the San Diego DMAT, and hope to be able to do many things I have put off for way too long.
Irving Jacoby, MD  
Attending Physician, Dept of Emergency Medicine & Hyperbaric Medicine  
Emeritus Clinical Professor of Medicine & Surgery

Specialty:  
Emergency Medicine

Subspecialties:  
Disaster Medicine, Hyperbaric Medicine & Wound Care

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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:
New Patient Registration: (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.
Neurosurgery - Spine

Sharona Ben-Haim, MD
Neurosurgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialty:
Spine

Add'l Languages:
Hebrew, Spanish

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Sharona Ben-Haim, MD, is a neurosurgeon who specializes in caring for people with treatment-resistant epilepsy and movement disorders such as Parkinson’s disease, dystonia and essential tremor and spasticity. She also treats chronic pain, including facial pain and trigeminal neuralgia, as well as pain related to spinal conditions.
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

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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.

Sharona Ben-Haim, MD
Neurosurgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery
Subspecialty:
Spine
Add'l Languages:
Hebrew, Spanish

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Transplantation - Heart Transplantation

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Transplantation - Lung Transplantation

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Surgical Director of Heart Transplant
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