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)

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**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.
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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
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
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lead extraction to cut through scar tissue surrounding the lead, allowing it to
be easily removed.
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](https://health.ucsd.edu) 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.
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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Venktesh R. Ramnath, MD
Pulmonologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialty:
Critical Care

Add'l Languages:
Sankethi, Spanish

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 355-5864

Bio:
Venktesh Ramnath, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist who treats patients with lung disease primarily in intensive care unit and hospital settings. He serves as medical director of critical care telemedicine outreach, using digital technology to evaluate, diagnose and treat ICU patients who are located far from a UC San Diego Health facility.
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

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Additional Language:
Afrikaans

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Transplantation - Heart Transplantation

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Transplantation - Lung Transplantation

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