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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.

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.

Preetham J. Suresh, MD
Associate Clinical Professor
Associate Education Director

Specialty:
Anesthesiology

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Shiley Eye Institute

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

Bio:
Dr. Suresh completed his residency training at the University of California, San Francisco. He then worked as a private practice anesthesiologist at Alta Bates Summit Hospital where he was a partner in the East Bay Anesthesia Medical Group. While there, he specialized in acute pain management, regional anesthesia for orthopedic surgery and high risk obstetric anesthesia.
Anesthesiology - Critical Care

Albert Nguyen, MD
Assistant Clinical Professor

Specialty:
Anesthesiology

Subspecialty:
Critical Care

Add'l Language:
Vietnamese

Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Cancer - Lung Cancer

Mark W. Onaitis, MD
Thoracic Surgeon
Professor of Medicine

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Cancer, Minimally Invasive Surgery

Moores Cancer Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Surgery: (877) 586-4727
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Mark Onaitis, MD, is a board-certified thoracic surgeon who specializes in malignant and benign conditions of the chest, including lung cancer, esophageal cancer, thymic malignancy, gastroesophageal reflux, achalasia, paraesophageal hernia, and myasthenia gravis. He uses minimally invasive approaches – thoracoscopy and robotics – to treat these conditions.

Anthony Perricone, MD
Clinical Professor

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Cancer, Lung Transplantation, Minimally Invasive Surgery

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Perricone is director of the Cardiothoracic Unit at the Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center, and surgical director of lung transplantation at UC San Diego Health.
Cancer - Lung Cancer (cont.)

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**
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6100

**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
Cardiology is the branch of medicine specializing in the study and treatment of heart conditions. Learn more about cardiology at UC San Diego Health.

Laith Alshawabkeh, MD
Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology

Add'l Language:
Arabic

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Laith Alshawabkeh MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in caring for adults with congenital heart disease, an abnormality in the heart that is present at birth. He leads the Adult Congenital Heart Disease Program at UC San Diego Health.
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.

Frederick (Fred) Han, MD
Cardiac Electrophysiologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Cardiology

**Subspecialty:**
Electrophysiology

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Murrieta - California Oaks Rd

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

**Bio:**
Frederick (Fred) Han, MD, is board-certified cardiologist who subspecializes in cardiac electrophysiology. He takes care of patients with all types of fast (tachycardia), slow (bradycardia), and irregular heart rhythm disorders, including both atrial and ventricular arrhythmias.

Gregory Kent Feld, MD
Director, Cardiac Electrophysiology Program
Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Cardiology

**Subspecialty:**
Electrophysiology

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

**Bio:**
Gregory K. Feld, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist and cardiac electrophysiologist. His clinical and research interests include the mechanisms of cardiac arrhythmias and catheter ablation techniques for atrial arrhythmias, particularly atrial fibrillation.

Gordon Ho, MD
Cardiac Electrophysiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Cardiology

**Subspecialty:**
Electrophysiology

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

**Bio:**
Gordon Ho, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who subspecializes in cardiac electrophysiology. He takes care of patients with fast, slow and irregular heart rhythms. Specifically, he has expertise in performing minimally-invasive procedures to treat atrial and ventricular arrhythmias.
Kurt Hoffmayer, MD, PharmD, FACS, FHRS
Cardiac Electrophysiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
Electrophysiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Encinitas - North El Camino Real

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

Bio:
Kurt Hoffmayer, MD, PharmD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in cardiac electrophysiology. He cares for patients with all types of heart rhythm disorders and is interested in both medical and procedural management of atrial fibrillation, atrial flutter, supraventricular tachycardia, and ventricular tachycardia.

David Edward Krummen, MD
Cardiac Electrophysiologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
Electrophysiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Krummen's goal is to provide outstanding medical care while advancing the profession's knowledge and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias.

Jonathan Hsu, MD
Cardiac Electrophysiologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
Electrophysiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Jonathan Hsu, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who subspecializes in electrophysiology. He takes care of patients with all types of fast (tachycardia), slow (bradycardia), and irregular heart rhythm disorders, including both atrial and ventricular arrhythmias.

Farshad Raissi, MD, MPH, FHRS
Cardiac Electrophysiologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialties:
Electrophysiology, Heart Failure
Add'l Language:
Farsi

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Farshad Raissi, MD, MPH, is a board-certified cardiac electrophysiologist whose special clinical interest is in management of complex arrhythmias in heart failure, as well as device therapies for early and advanced heart disease.
Stephanie Yoakum, MSN, ACNP-CS
Nurse Practitioner

Specialty: Cardiology
Subspecialty: Electrophysiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Stephanie Yoakum, MSN, is a certified acute care nurse practitioner (ACNP-CS) who manages patients with irregular heartbeat (cardiac arrhythmia) and cardiac devices in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. She evaluates patients following their procedure, including assessment of medications, symptoms and appropriate diagnostic tests.
Cardiology - General Cardiology

Daniel G. Blanchard, MD, FACC
Cardiologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
General Cardiology
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Daniel Blanchard, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who performs noninvasive surgery and diagnostics such as echocardiography. He also treats hyperlipidemia (high levels of fats, cholesterol and triglycerides) and congenital heart disease.

Anthony N. DeMaria, MD
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
General Cardiology
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Dr. DeMaria is the Judith and Jack White Chair in Cardiology and founding director of the Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center at UC San Diego. Dr. DeMaria has been in practice for 25 years. He regularly participates in trials involving non-invasive methods to diagnose and treat heart disease.

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 who 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.
Cardiology - General Cardiology (cont.)

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 - Rancho Bernardo: (858) 605-4448

**Bio:**  
Anya Narezkina, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in cardio-oncology. The field of cardio-oncology focuses on treating and preventing heart conditions in patients who are treated for cancer.

Nicholas Phreaner, MD  
Cardiologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**  
Cardiology

**Subspecialties:**  
General Cardiology, Heart Failure

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon

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

**Bio:**  
Nicholas Phreaner, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in the treatment and prevention or general cardiovascular conditions such as atherosclerotic heart disease, congestive heart failure, and irregular heart beat (arrhythmia).

Ajit Raisinghani, MD  
Cardiologist  
Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**  
Cardiology

**Subspecialty:**  
General Cardiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Encinitas - North El Camino Real

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line - Encinitas: (760) 697-3110

**Bio:**  
Ajit Raisinghani, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist and director of cardiology clinics as well as noninvasive laboratories for the Division of Cardiology at UC San Diego Health. Dr. Raisinghani specializes in advanced diagnostic techniques, including transthoracic and transesophageal echocardiography, contrast echocardiography and stress echocardiography.
Jia Shen, MD  
Cardiologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

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

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**  
Encinitas - North 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. She cares for patients at the Step Family Cardiovascular Rehabilitation and Wellness Center in La Jolla and at our Hillcrest and Encinitas cardiovascular clinics. She specializes in diet and lifestyle changes to prevent and treat cardiovascular disease.

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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.

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Isac C. Thomas, MD, MPH  
Cardiologist

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

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

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

**Bio:**  
Isac Thomas, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in treating and preventing heart disease. Dr. Thomas evaluates patients’ current heart conditions with a focus on preventive medicine to neutralize or slow the progression of heart disease.
Cardiology - General Cardiology (cont.)

Michael J. Wilkinson, MD
Cardiologist

Specialty:
Cardiology

Subspecialty:
General Cardiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Encinitas - North El Camino Real

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

Bio:
Michael Wilkinson, MD, is a cardiologist who leads the advanced lipid treatment program at UC San Diego Health. This includes diagnosis and management of inherited forms of dyslipidemia (i.e. an abnormal amount of cholesterol or fats [lipids] in the blood), as well as primary and secondary prevention of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease through risk factor management and use of lipid-modifying therapies.
Cardiology - Heart Failure

**Eric David Adler, MD**
Cardiologist  
Director of Cardiac Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support  
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: (858) 657-8530

**Bio:**  
Eric D. Adler, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist and medical director of heart transplant and mechanical circulatory support. He specializes in advanced heart failure, mechanical circulatory support and cardiac transplantation.

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**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.
Cardiology - Heart Failure (cont.)

Eugene Golts, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

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

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Lung Transplantation

Add'l Languages:
Russian, Ukrainian

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Eugene Golts, MD, is a board-certified general and cardiothoracic surgeon who performs the full scope of cardiothoracic surgery and thoracic organ transplantation. Dr. Golts is surgical director of the Lung Transplant Program at UC San Diego Health.

Paul J. Kim, MD
Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology

Subspecialty:
Heart Failure

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Paul Kim, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in treating patients with advanced heart failure, including those who need ventricular assist devices (VADs) or heart transplants. Dr. Kim also has specialized training in performing and interpreting cardiovascular magnetic resonance (MRI) and cardiovascular computed tomography (CCT) studies.

Barry H. Greenberg, MD, FHFSA
Director, Advanced Heart Failure Treatment Program
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cardiology, Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Add'l Language:
French

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Barry H. Greenberg, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist and internationally recognized pioneer in the field of heart failure. He directs the Advanced Heart Failure Treatment Program at UC San Diego Health.
Cardiology - Heart Failure (cont.)

**Michael M Madani, MD, FACS**  
Division Chief, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery  
Executive Director, Surgery - Cardiovascular Institute  
Professor of Surgery  

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

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

Add'l Language:  
Persian  

Jacobs Medical Center  
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center  

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

Bio:  
Michael Madani, MD, is a board-certified cardiovascular surgeon who oversees a variety of surgical services at UC San Diego Health, including surgical treatment for heart failure, lung transplantation and pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE). He is the surgical director of the Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) Program, and is also an expert in minimally invasive heart surgery, mitral valve repair and off-pump bypass surgery.

**Nicholas Phreaner, MD**  
Cardiologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  

Specialty:  
Cardiology  

Subspecialties:  
General Cardiology, Heart Failure  

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon  

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

Bio:  
Nicholas Phreaner, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in the treatment and prevention or general cardiovascular conditions such as atherosclerotic heart disease, congestive heart failure, and irregular heart beat (arrhythmia).
Cardiology - Heart Failure (cont.)

Travis L. Pollema, DO
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Travis L. Pollema, DO, is a cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in treating diseases of the heart and lungs. His expertise includes treating coronary artery disease with bypass surgery and valvular heart disease with valve repair or replacement. Dr. Pollema performs operations for patients with advanced stages of heart failure; patients needing mechanical circulatory support, including temporary and permanent ventricular assist devices (VADs); and those who have undergone or need heart and/or lung transplantation. He also implements and manages the care of those requiring extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), a type of life support treatment that provides enough oxygen to a person while allowing time for their lungs and heart to rest or heal.

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.
Farshad Raissi, MD, MPH, FHRS  
Cardiac Electrophysiologist  
Associate Professor of Medicine  

**Specialty:**  
Cardiology  

**Subspecialties:**  
Electrophysiology, Heart Failure  

**Add'l Language:**  
Farsi  

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

**Bio:**  
Farshad Raissi, MD, MPH, is a board-certified cardiac electrophysiologist whose special clinical interest is in management of complex arrhythmias in heart failure, as well as device therapies for early and advanced heart disease.

Jorge E. Silva Enciso, MD  
Cardiologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  

**Specialties:**  
Cardiology, Transplantation  

**Subspecialties:**  
Heart Transplantation, Heart Failure  

**Add'l Language:**  
Spanish  

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

**Bio:**  
Jorge Silva Enciso, MD, is a board-certified advanced heart failure and transplant cardiologist. He cares for patients with progressive heart failure symptoms in need of advanced therapies or surgical treatments including ventricular assist devices (VADs) or heart transplantation.
Hao (Howie) Tran, MD
Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology

Subspecialty:
Heart Failure

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Murrieta - California Oaks Rd

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

Bio:
Howie Tran, MD, is board-certified cardiologist who specializes in treating patients with end-stage or advanced heart failure. He cares for patients who require heart transplants and mechanical circulatory support devices, including ventricular assist devices (VADs) and percutaneous ventricular assist devices (pVADs). Dr. Tran is also experienced in right heart-catheterization with heart tissue biopsies.

Marcus A. Urey, MD
Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cardiology, Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Marcus A. Urey, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist specializing in advanced heart failure, mechanical circulatory devices and heart transplantation. In addition to his expertise in caring for those with end stage heart failure, he has a special interest in the evaluation and treatment of adults with heart failure caused by congenital heart disease (heart defects that are present at birth) and those with amyloidosis, a rare condition that can involve the heart. He works closely with colleagues from different subspecialities to offer these patients the most up-to-date treatment with the intent of improving both their longevity and quality of life.
Nicholas Wettersten, MD
Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
Heart Failure

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Murrieta - California Oaks Rd
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Nicholas Wettersten, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who treats patients with advanced heart failure.
Belal Al Khiami, MBBS
Interventional Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
Interventional Cardiology
Add'l Language:
Arabic

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Belal Al Khiami, MBBS, is a board-certified interventional cardiologist. Interventional cardiology involves opening blocked blood vessels with minimally invasive catheter procedures. Dr. Al Khiami treats people with acute myocardial infarction (heart attack), coronary artery disease, heart valve disease, peripheral vascular disease, and other heart conditions.

Lawrence Ang, MD
Interventional Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
Interventional Cardiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Lawrence Ang, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in interventional cardiology, the catheter-based treatment of heart disease. He performs nonsurgical procedures such as percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) to treat people with coronary artery blockages and improve blood flow to the heart. Dr. Ang is a proponent of using intracoronary hemodynamics to guide therapy and to help patients achieve "complete" revascularization in multi-vessel coronary artery disease. He also has expertise in state-of-the-art robotically assisted PCI as well as use of cardiac support devices for critically-ill patients.
Cardiology - Interventional Cardiology (cont.)

Ehtisham Mahmud, MD, FACC, FSCAI
Division Chief, Cardiovascular Medicine
Executive Director, Medicine - Cardiovascular Institute
Director, Interventional Cardiology and Cardiac Cath Lab
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
Interventional Cardiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8029

Bio:
Ehtisham Mahmud, MD, is a board-certified interventional cardiologist who specializes in complex coronary procedures, including complex coronary, structural, lower extremity and carotid interventions. He serves as division chief of cardiovascular medicine, executive director of medicine at Cardiovascular Institute, and director of interventional cardiology, all at UC San Diego Health.

Mitul Patel, MD
Interventional Cardiologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
Interventional Cardiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Mitul Patel, MD, is a board-certified interventional cardiologist. Interventional cardiology involves opening blocked blood vessels with minimally invasive catheter procedures. Dr. Patel treats people with acute myocardial infarction (heart attack), coronary artery disease, heart valve disease, peripheral vascular disease, and other heart conditions. He has extensive experience with the insertion of ventricular assist devices to support both complex coronary interventions and to treat cardiogenic shock.

Ryan R. Reeves, MD
Interventional Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Cardiology
Subspecialty:
Interventional Cardiology

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Ryan Reeves, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in cardiovascular medicine and interventional cardiology. He performs coronary angioplasty, a nonsurgical procedure that improves blood flow to the heart using cardiac catheterization.
Cardiology - Interventional Cardiology \textit{(cont.)}

\textbf{Sotirios Tsimikas, MD}
Director of Vascular Medicine
Professor of Medicine

\textbf{Specialty:} Cardiology
\textbf{Subspecialty:} Interventional Cardiology
\textbf{Add'l Language:} Greek

\textbf{Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center}

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

\textbf{Bio:}
UC San Diego Health Links
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](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health.

### 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
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

**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.

### Daniel L. Gramins, MD
**Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgeon**
**Associate Professor of Surgery**

**Specialty:**
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

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

**Bio:**
Daniel Gramins, MD, is a board-certified cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon who also serves as surgical director of the cardiothoracic surgery program at TriCity Medical Center.

### Eugene Golts, MD
**Cardiothoracic Surgeon**
**Associate Professor of Surgery**

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

**Subspecialties:**
Heart Failure, Lung Transplantation

**Add'l Languages:**
Russian, Ukrainian

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

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

**Bio:**
Eugene Golts, MD, is a board-certified general and cardiothoracic surgeon who performs the full scope of cardiothoracic surgery and thoracic organ transplantation. Dr. Golts is surgical director of the [Lung Transplant Program](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health.

### Mark W. Onaitis, MD
**Thoracic Surgeon**
**Professor of Medicine**

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

**Subspecialties:**
Lung Cancer, Minimally Invasive Surgery

**Moores Cancer Center**
**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**
**Hillcrest - Medical Offices North**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Surgery: (877) 586-4727
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100

**Bio:**
Mark Onaitis, MD, is a board-certified thoracic surgeon who specializes in malignant and benign conditions of the chest, including lung cancer, esophageal cancer, thymic malignancy, gastroesophageal reflux, achalasia, paraesophageal hernia, and myasthenia gravis. He uses minimally invasive approaches – thoracoscopy and robotics – to treat these conditions.
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery (cont.)

Anthony Perricone, MD
Clinical Professor

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Cancer, Lung Transplantation, Minimally Invasive Surgery

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Perricone is director of the Cardiothoracic Unit at the Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center, and surgical director of lung transplantation at UC San Diego Health.

Travis L. Pollema, DO
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Travis L. Pollema, DO, is a cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in treating diseases of the heart and lungs. His expertise includes treating coronary artery disease with bypass surgery and valvular heart disease with valve repair or replacement. Dr. Pollema performs operations for patients with advanced stages of heart failure; patients needing mechanical circulatory support, including temporary and permanent ventricular assist devices (VADs); and those who have undergone or need heart and/or lung transplantation. He also implements and manages the care of those requiring extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), a type of life support treatment that provides enough oxygen to a person while allowing time for their lungs and heart to rest or heal.
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery (cont.)

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**
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6100

**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.

Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery - Adult Congenital Heart Defects

John Lamberti, MD

**Specialty:**
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery

**Subspecialty:**
- Adult Congenital Heart Defects

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

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

**Bio:**
Dr. Lamberti leads the pediatric heart surgery program at Rady Children’s Hospital, and also performs surgeries for adult congenital heart defects at Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center.
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery - Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Michael M Madani, MD, FACS
Division Chief, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery
Executive Director, Surgery - Cardiovascular Institute
Professor of Surgery

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

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

Add'l Language:
Persian

Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Michael Madani, MD, is a board-certified cardiovascular surgeon who oversees a variety of surgical services at UC San Diego Health, including surgical treatment for heart failure, lung transplantation and pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE). He is the surgical director of the Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) Program, and is also an expert in minimally invasive heart surgery, mitral valve repair and off-pump bypass surgery.

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.
Naohide Sakakibara, MD  
Thoracic Surgeon  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

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

**Subspecialty:**  
Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

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

**Bio:**  
UC San Diego Health Links
Emergency Medicine

Emergency Medicine is the medical specialty dealing with the immediate treatment of patients whose condition is critical, requiring immediate action. Learn more about emergency medicine at UC San Diego Health.

Christian Dameff, MD
Emergency Medicine Physician
Assistant Professor of Medicine In Residence

Specialty:
Emergency Medicine

Add'l Language:
American Sign Language (ASL)

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
La Jolla - 8910 Villa La Jolla
Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Emergency Department - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6222
Emergency Department - La Jolla: (858) 657-7600
Direct Clinic Line - Urgent Care, La Jolla: (858) 249-6800
Direct Clinic Line - Rancho Bernardo: (858) 605-4441

Bio:
Christian Dameff, MD, is a board-certified emergency medicine physician who treats and cares for patients in the emergency department and urgent care, including those with life-threatening or critical conditions. His care may include evaluation, resuscitation, stabilization, and referring patients to appropriate medical departments.
**Endocrinology**

Endocrinology is the medical specialty focused on diseases of the endocrine system, including diabetes, thyroid and pituitary disorders. Learn more about [endocrinology and diabetes](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health.

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**Schafer Boeder, MD**  
Endocrinologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**  
Endocrinology

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**  
Jacobs Medical Center  
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6303  
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices: (858) 657-1363

**Bio:**  
Schafer Boeder, MD, is a board-certified endocrinologist who diagnoses and treats people with a variety of endocrine conditions. He has a particular interest in diabetes and is a member of the inpatient glycemic control team, where he works with patients to monitor glucose levels, adjust insulin dosages, and maintain long-term glucose control at home.
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

Kunal Agrawal, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspecialty:
Stroke

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8540

Bio:
Kunal Agrawal, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in vascular neurology and stroke treatment. He focuses on the spectrum of stroke care, including stroke prevention, acute ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke, and post-acute stroke care.

Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD
Vascular Neurologist
Director, Stroke Center
Professor of Neurosciences

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

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist. His expertise includes caring for patients with stroke, cerebrovascular diseases, and those who require neurological critical care. Dr. Hemmen directs the stroke center at UC San Diego Health and was instrumental in establishing the center as the first certified Stroke Center of Excellence in San Diego County.
Neurology - Stroke (cont.)

Branko Huisa-Garate, MD
Vascular Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialty:
Neurology

Subspecialty:
Stroke

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8540
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Branko Huisa-Garate, MD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist who specializes in treating cerebrovascular diseases such as acute ischemic stroke, cerebrovascular malformations, vascular dementia and vascular cognitive impairment.

Brett C Meyer, MD
Co-Director, UCSD Stroke Center
Professor of Clinical Neurosciences
Medical Director, UCSD Enterprise Telemedicine

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care

Subspecialty:
Stroke

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Brett C. Meyer, MD, is a neurologist at UC San Diego Medical Center, Co-Director of the UC San Diego Stroke Center, and Medical Director for UC San Diego Enterprise Telemedicine. He specializes in acute cerebrovascular disease therapies and technological evaluation and treatment techniques.

Royya Modir, MD
Neurologist
Associate 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.
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.

Anjoulie Pujji, DO
Primary Care Physician

Specialties:
Primary Care, Senior Medicine

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices: (858) 249-2500

Bio:
Anjoulie Pujji DO, is a geriatric medicine doctor. She provides comprehensive and compassionate primary care to older adults with an emphasis on health maintenance, disease prevention and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses.
Psychology

Marc A. Norman, PhD
Psychologist
Professor of Psychiatry

Specialty:
Psychology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-7792

Bio:
Marc A. Norman, PhD, is a licensed psychologist and board-certified clinical neuropsychologist providing care for adults with neurological and psychiatric disorders. He is a part of the Neuropsychological Assessment program at UC San Diego Health, and conducts evaluations in people impacted by stroke, traumatic brain injury, brain tumors, neurodevelopmental injuries, concussions, dementia, memory disorders, and other cognitive issues.
Pulmonology (Lung) - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Kamyar Afshar, DO
Director, Advanced Lung Disease Program
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Pulmonology (Lung), Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Critical Care

Add'l Language:
Farsi

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6097

Bio:
Kamyar Afshar, DO, is a board-certified pulmonary and critical care physician who specializes in complex lung diseases and lung transplantation. His expertise includes treating cystic fibrosis (CF) and non-CF bronchiectasis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, interstitial lung disease, sarcoidosis, as well as rare lung diseases such as lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM) and tuberous sclerosis complex.
Pulmonology (Lung) - Critical Care

Kamyar Afshar, DO
Director, Advanced Lung Disease Program
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Pulmonology (Lung), Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Critical Care

Add'l Language:
Farsi

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6097

Bio:
Kamyar Afshar, DO, is a board-certified pulmonary and critical care physician who specializes in complex lung diseases and lung transplantation. His expertise includes treating cystic fibrosis (CF) and non-CF bronchiectasis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, interstitial lung disease, sarcoidosis, as well as rare lung diseases such as lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM) and tuberous sclerosis complex.

Peter F. Fedullo, MD
Director of Medical Intensive Care Unit
Professor of Medicine
UC San Diego Chief of Staff

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Critical Care, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Peter F. Fedullo is a board-certified pulmonologist. His clinical interests include chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension, acute venous thromboembolism and critical care medicine.

Timothy M. Fernandes, MD, MPH, FACCP
Pulmonologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Critical Care, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Pulmonary Vascular Disease

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6303

Bio:
Timothy Fernandes, MD, MPH, is a board-certified pulmonologist who focuses on pulmonary vascular disease. He has a special interest in caring for patients who have venous thromboembolism, pulmonary arterial hypertension, and chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension.
Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD
Pulmonologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**
Pulmonology (Lung)

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

**Add'l Languages:**
French, Greek

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

**Bio:**
Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist and intensive care specialist. His clinical interests include pulmonary vascular disease, with a focus in pulmonary arterial hypertension, chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension and critical care medicine.

Gordon Yung, MD
Pulmonologist
Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**
Pulmonology (Lung), Transplantation

**Subspecialties:**
Critical Care, Lung Transplantation

**Add'l Language:**
Cantonese

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5050

**Bio:**
Gordon Yung, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist who is medical director of lung transplantation. He also specializes in advanced lung disease, including interstitial lung disease, pulmonary hypertension and COPD.
Pulmonology (Lung) - Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Thao Drcar, MS, ANP-BC, CNS
Certified Adult Nurse Practitioner

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Add'l Language:
Vietnamese

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Jacobs Medical Center

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

Bio:
Thao Drcar, MS, is a board-certified adult nurse practitioner (ANP-BC) and clinical nurse specialist (CNS) who treats patients with chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH). She helps manage the complex care of patients who are undergoing pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE) surgery and balloon pulmonary angioplasty (BPA).

Peter F. Fedullo, MD
Director of Medical Intensive Care Unit
Professor of Medicine
UC San Diego Chief of Staff

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Critical Care, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South

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

Bio:
Peter F. Fedullo is a board-certified pulmonologist. His clinical interests include chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension, acute venous thromboembolism and critical care medicine.

Timothy M. Fernandes, MD, MPH, FACCP
Pulmonologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Critical Care, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Pulmonary Vascular Disease

Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6303

Bio:
Timothy Fernandes, MD, MPH, is a board-certified pulmonologist who focuses on pulmonary vascular disease. He has a special interest in caring for patients who have venous thromboembolism, pulmonary arterial hypertension, and chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension.
Kim M. Kerr, MD
Vice Chief, Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine
Professor of 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.

Nick H. Kim, MD
Pulmonologist
Director, Pulmonary Vascular Medicine
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Nick H. Kim, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist and director of the pulmonary vascular medicine program at UC San Diego Health. He specializes in the treatment of people with pulmonary hypertension and chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH). Dr. Kim serves as medical director of the Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy Program. He also has expertise in using balloon pulmonary angioplasty to treat CTEPH.
Pulmonology (Lung) - Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) (cont.)

Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD
Pulmonologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Critical Care

Add'l Languages:
French, Greek

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist and intensive care specialist. His clinical interests include pulmonary vascular disease, with a focus in pulmonary arterial hypertension, chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension and critical care medicine.

David Poch, MD
Director, Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

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

Bio:
David Poch, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist with a special focus in caring for patients with pulmonary vascular disease. He directs the pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) treatment program, and has expertise in providing diagnosis and treatment for chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH) and pulmonary embolism. UC San Diego Health is an internationally recognized center for treating all forms of pulmonary hypertension.
Melissa D. Stinson, MS, ANP-BC, CCRN
Certified Adult Nurse Practitioner

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:
Melissa Stinson, MS, is a board-certified adult nurse practitioner (ANP-BC), clinical nurse specialist (CNS) and critical care registered nurse (CCRN) who treats people with chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH). She manages the complex care of patients who are undergoing pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE) surgery and balloon pulmonary angioplasty (BPA).
Pulmonology (Lung) - Pulmonary Vascular Disease

Angela Bautista, MS, PA-C

**Specialty:** Pulmonology (Lung)  
**Subspecialty:** Pulmonary Vascular Disease

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Jacobs Medical Center**  

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

**Bio:**  
Angela Bautista, MS, is a certified physician assistant (PA-C) who treats patients with chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH). As part of the care team, she helps evaluate, plan and implement treatments for individuals with CTEPH in both the hospital and outpatient setting.

Thao Drcar, MS, ANP-BC, CNS

**Certified Adult Nurse Practitioner**

**Specialty:** Pulmonology (Lung)  
**Subspecialties:** Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)  
**Add'l Language:** Vietnamese

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Jacobs Medical Center**

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

**Bio:**  
Thao Drcar, MS, is a certified physician assistant (PA-C) who treats patients with chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH). As part of the care team, she helps evaluate, plan and implement treatments for individuals with CTEPH in both the hospital and outpatient setting.

Peter F. Fedullo, MD

**Director of Medical Intensive Care Unit  
Professor of Medicine  
UC San Diego Chief of Staff**

**Specialty:** Pulmonology (Lung)  
**Subspecialties:** Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Critical Care, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center  
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center  
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**

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

**Bio:**  
Peter F. Fedullo is a board-certified pulmonologist. His clinical interests include chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension, acute venous thromboembolism and critical care medicine.

Timothy M. Fernandes, MD, MPH, FACCP

**Pulmonologist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine**

**Specialty:** Pulmonology (Lung)  
**Subspecialties:** Critical Care, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Pulmonary Vascular Disease

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South  
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6303

**Bio:**  
Timothy Fernandes, MD, MPH, is a board-certified pulmonologist who focuses on pulmonary vascular disease. He has a special interest in caring for patients who have venous thromboembolism, pulmonary arterial hypertension, and chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension.
Pulmonology (Lung) - Pulmonary Vascular Disease (cont.)

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

Nick H. Kim, MD  
Pulmonologist  
Director, Pulmonary Vascular Medicine  
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:  
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:  
Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:  
Nick Kim, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist and director of the pulmonary vascular medicine program at UC San Diego Health. He specializes in the treatment of people with pulmonary hypertension and chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH). Dr. Kim serves as medical director of the Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy Program. He also has expertise in using balloon pulmonary angioplasty to treat CTEPH.

Jess Mandel, MD  
Pulmonologist  
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:  
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialty:  
Pulmonary Vascular Disease

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-7150

Bio:  
Dr. Mandel's clinical interests include pulmonary vascular disease, critical care medicine, and hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia. He has authored two textbooks and a number of scholarly articles related to pulmonary and critical care medicine.
Pulmonology (Lung) - Pulmonary Vascular Disease (cont.)

Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD
Pulmonologist
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Critical Care

Add'l Languages:
French, Greek

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Demosthenes (Demos) Papamatheakis, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist and intensive care specialist. His clinical interests include pulmonary vascular disease, with a focus in pulmonary arterial hypertension, chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension and critical care medicine.

David Poch, MD
Director, Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Pulmonology (Lung)

Subspecialties:
Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

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

Bio:
David Poch, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist with a special focus in caring for patients with pulmonary vascular disease. He directs the pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) treatment program, and has expertise in providing diagnosis and treatment for chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH) and pulmonary embolism. UC San Diego Health is an internationally recognized center for treating all forms of pulmonary hypertension.
Melissa D. Stinson, MS, ANP-BC, CCRN  
Certified Adult Nurse Practitioner  

**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:**  
Melissa Stinson, MS, is a board-certified adult nurse practitioner (ANP-BC), clinical nurse specialist (CNS) and critical care registered nurse (CCRN) who treats people with chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH). She manages the complex care of patients who are undergoing pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE) surgery and balloon pulmonary angioplasty (BPA).
Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation focuses on helping people achieve the highest level of function, independence, and quality of life possible. Learn more about the comprehensive rehabilitation services offered at UC San Diego Health.

Lindsey Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialties:
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

Bio:
Lindsey Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP, is a certified speech-language pathologist who evaluates and treats patients with cognitive communication and swallowing disorders. She has a special interest in helping people with neurological disorders such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig’s disease), movement disorders, stroke, and traumatic brain injury.
Senior Medicine

Senior medicine, also known as geriatric medicine, is a medical specialization focusing on the health care of older adults. Learn more about senior medicine at UC San Diego Health.

Anjoulie Pujji, DO
Primary Care Physician

Specialties:  
Primary Care, Senior Medicine

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices  
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line - Perlman Medical Offices: (858) 249-2500

Bio:  
Anjoulie Pujji DO, is a geriatric medicine doctor. She provides comprehensive and compassionate primary care to older adults with an emphasis on health maintenance, disease prevention and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses.
Speech-Language Pathology

Speech-language pathology is the clinical specialty that focuses on evaluating and treating communication disorders and swallowing disorders. Learn more about speech and language therapy at UC San Diego Health.

Lindsey Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Specialties:
Speech-Language Pathology, Rehabilitation

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (855) 543-0333

Bio:
Lindsey Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP, is a certified speech-language pathologist who evaluates and treats patients with cognitive communication and swallowing disorders. She has a special interest in helping people with neurological disorders such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease), movement disorders, stroke, and traumatic brain injury.
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.

Kunal Agrawal, MD
Neurologist
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspecialty:
Stroke

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8540

Bio:
Kunal Agrawal, MD, is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in vascular neurology and stroke treatment. He focuses on the spectrum of stroke care, including stroke prevention, acute ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke, and post-acute stroke care.

Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD
Vascular Neurologist
Director, Stroke Center
Professor of Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurology, Stroke Care
Subspecialty:
Stroke

Add'l Language:
German

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Thomas Hemmen, MD, PhD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist. His expertise includes caring for patients with stroke, cerebrovascular diseases, and those who require neurological critical care. Dr. Hemmen directs the stroke center at UC San Diego Health and was instrumental in establishing the center as the first certified Stroke Center of Excellence in San Diego County.
Stroke Care (cont.)

**Brett C Meyer, MD**  
Co-Director, UCSD Stroke Center  
Professor of Clinical Neurosciences  
Medical Director, UCSD Enterprise Telemedicine

**Specialties:**  
Neurology, Stroke Care  
**Subspecialty:**  
Stroke

**Hillcrest - Medical Offices North**  
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

**Bio:**  
Brett C. Meyer, MD, is a neurologist at UC San Diego Medical Center, Co-Director of the UC San Diego Stroke Center, and Medical Director for UC San Diego Enterprise Telemedicine. He specializes in acute cerebrovascular disease therapies and technological evaluation and treatment techniques.

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**Royya Modir, MD**  
Neurologist  
Associate 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.

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
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-8530

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.

Eugene Golts, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

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

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

Bio:
Eugene Golts, MD, is a board-certified general and cardiothoracic surgeon who performs the full scope of cardiothoracic surgery and thoracic organ transplantation. Dr. Golts is surgical director of the Lung Transplant Program at UC San Diego Health.

Michael M Madani, MD, FACS
Division Chief, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery
Executive Director, Surgery - Cardiovascular Institute
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Cardiology, Transplantation, Surgery
Subspecialties:
Heart Transplantation, Lung Transplantation, Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE), Heart Failure

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

Bio:
Michael Madani, MD, is a board-certified cardiovascular surgeon who oversees a variety of surgical services at UC San Diego Health, including surgical treatment for heart failure, lung transplantation and pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE). He is the surgical director of the Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) Program, and is also an expert in minimally invasive heart surgery, mitral valve repair and off-pump bypass surgery.
Surgery (cont.)

Travis L. Pollema, DO
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Travis L. Pollema, DO, is a cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in treating diseases of the heart and lungs. His expertise includes treating coronary artery disease with bypass surgery and valvular heart disease with valve repair or replacement. Dr. Pollema performs operations for patients with advanced stages of heart failure; patients needing mechanical circulatory support, including temporary and permanent ventricular assist devices (VADs); and those who have undergone or need heart and/or lung transplantation. He also implements and manages the care of those requiring extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), a type of life support treatment that provides enough oxygen to a person while allowing time for their lungs and heart to rest or heal.

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.
Surgery (cont.)

Naohide Sakakibara, MD
Thoracic Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery

Subspecialty:
Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE)

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
UC San Diego Health Links

Mark W. Onaitis, MD
Thoracic Surgeon
Professor of Medicine

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Cancer, Minimally Invasive Surgery

Moores Cancer Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Surgery: (877) 586-4727
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Dr. Onaitis is director of the Cardiothoracic Unit at the Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center, and surgical director of lung transplantation at UC San Diego Health.

Anthony Perricone, MD
Clinical Professor

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Cancer, Lung Transplantation, Minimally Invasive Surgery

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Perricone is director of the Cardiothoracic Unit at the Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center, and surgical director of lung transplantation at UC San Diego Health.
Surgery - Minimally Invasive Surgery (cont.)

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
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6100

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

Eric David Adler, MD
Cardiologist
Director of Cardiac Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support
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: (858) 657-8530

Bio:
Eric D. Adler, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist and medical director of heart transplant and mechanical circulatory support. He specializes in advanced heart failure, mechanical circulatory support and cardiac 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

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.
Transplantation - Heart Transplantation (cont.)

Barry H. Greenberg, MD, FHFSA
Director, Advanced Heart Failure Treatment Program
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cardiology, Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Add'l Language:
French

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Barry H. Greenberg, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist and internationally recognized pioneer in the field of heart failure. He directs the Advanced Heart Failure Treatment Program at UC San Diego Health.

Michael M Madani, MD, FACS
Division Chief, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery
Executive Director, Surgery - Cardiovascular Institute
Professor of Surgery

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

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

Add'l Language:
Persian

Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Michael Madani, MD, is a board-certified cardiovascular surgeon who oversees a variety of surgical services at UC San Diego Health, including surgical treatment for heart failure, lung transplantation and pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE). He is the surgical director of the Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) Program, and is also an expert in minimally invasive heart surgery, mitral valve repair and off-pump bypass surgery.
Transplantation - Heart Transplantation (cont.)

Travis L. Pollema, DO
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Travis L. Pollema, DO, is a cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in treating diseases of the heart and lungs. His expertise includes treating coronary artery disease with bypass surgery and valvular heart disease with valve repair or replacement. Dr. Pollema performs operations for patients with advanced stages of heart failure; patients needing mechanical circulatory support, including temporary and permanent ventricular assist devices (VADs); and those who have undergone or need heart and/or lung transplantation. He also implements and manages the care of those requiring extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), a type of life support treatment that provides enough oxygen to a person while allowing time for their lungs and heart to rest or heal.

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.
Transplantation - Heart Transplantation (cont.)

Jorge E. Silva Enciso, MD
Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**
Cardiology, Transplantation

**Subspecialties:**
Heart Transplantation, Heart Failure

**Add'l Language:**
Spanish

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**
**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**

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

**Bio:**
Jorge Silva Enciso, MD, is a board-certified advanced heart failure and transplant cardiologist. He cares for patients with progressive heart failure symptoms in need of advanced therapies or surgical treatments including ventricular assist devices (VADs) or heart transplantation.

Marcus A. Urey, MD
Cardiologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialties:**
Cardiology, Transplantation

**Subspecialties:**
Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

**Add'l Language:**
Spanish

**Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center**
**Hillcrest - Medical Offices South**

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

**Bio:**
Marcus A. Urey, MD, is a board-certified cardiologist specializing in advanced heart failure, mechanical circulatory devices and heart transplantation. In addition to his expertise in caring for those with end stage heart failure, he has a special interest in the evaluation and treatment of adults with heart failure caused by congenital heart disease (heart defects that are present at birth) and those with amyloidosis, a rare condition that can involve the heart. He works closely with colleagues from different subspecialties to offer these patients the most up-to-date treatment with the intent of improving both their longevity and quality of life.

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**
**Hillcrest - Medical Offices North**

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 822-6100

**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 - Lung Transplantation

Kamyar Afshar, DO
Director, Advanced Lung Disease Program
Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Pulmonology (Lung), Transplantation
Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Critical Care
Add'l Language:
Farsi

La Jolla - 4520 Executive Drive
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-6097

Bio:
Kamyar Afshar, DO, is a board-certified pulmonary and critical care physician who specializes in complex lung diseases and lung transplantation. His expertise includes treating cystic fibrosis (CF) and non-CF bronchiectasis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, interstitial lung disease, sarcoidosis, as well as rare lung diseases such as lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM) and tuberous sclerosis complex.

Eugene Golts, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery, Cardiology, Transplantation
Subspecialties:
Heart Failure, Lung Transplantation
Add'l Languages:
Russian, Ukrainian

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Eugene Golts, MD, is a board-certified general and cardiothoracic surgeon who performs the full scope of cardiothoracic surgery and thoracic organ transplantation. Dr. Golts is surgical director of the Lung Transplant Program at UC San Diego Health.
Transplantation - Lung Transplantation (cont.)

Michael M Madani, MD, FACS
Division Chief, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery
Executive Director, Surgery - Cardiovascular Institute
Professor of Surgery

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

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

Add'l Language:
Persian

Jacobs Medical Center
Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

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

Bio:
Michael Madani, MD, is a board-certified cardiovascular surgeon who oversees a variety of surgical services at UC San Diego Health, including surgical treatment for heart failure, lung transplantation and pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE). He is the surgical director of the Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy (PTE) Program, and is also an expert in minimally invasive heart surgery, mitral valve repair and off-pump bypass surgery.

Anthony Perricone, MD
Clinical Professor

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Cancer, Lung Transplantation, Minimally Invasive Surgery

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Dr. Perricone is director of the Cardiothoracic Unit at the Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center, and surgical director of lung transplantation at UC San Diego Health.
Transplantation - Lung Transplantation (cont.)

Travis L. Pollema, DO
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

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

Subspecialties:
Lung Transplantation, Heart Failure, Heart Transplantation

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

Bio:
Travis L. Pollema, DO, is a cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in treating diseases of the heart and lungs. His expertise includes treating coronary artery disease with bypass surgery and valvular heart disease with valve repair or replacement. Dr. Pollema performs operations for patients with advanced stages of heart failure; patients needing mechanical circulatory support, including temporary and permanent ventricular assist devices (VADs); and those who have undergone or need heart and/or lung transplantation. He also implements and manages the care of those requiring extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), a type of life support treatment that provides enough oxygen to a person while allowing time for their lungs and heart to rest or heal.

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.
Transplantation - Lung Transplantation (cont.)

Gordon Yung, MD
Pulmonologist
Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Pulmonology (Lung), Transplantation

Subspecialties:
Critical Care, Lung Transplantation

Add'l Language:
Cantonese

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 657-5050

Bio:
Gordon Yung, MD, is a board-certified pulmonologist who is medical director of lung transplantation. He also specializes in advanced lung disease, including interstitial lung disease, pulmonary hypertension and COPD.
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