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

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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.
## Locations

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

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

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

  - 4510 and 4520 Executive Drive
  - San Diego, CA 92121

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

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

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

  - 9333 Genesee Avenue
  - San Diego, CA 92121

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

  - 9350 Campus Point Drive
  - La Jolla, CA 92037

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

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

  - Moores Cancer Center
  - 3855 Health Sciences Drive
  - La Jolla, CA 92037

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

  - 477 North El Camino Real
  - Encinitas, CA 92024

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Temecula
- **Temecula**
  - 31720 Temecula Parkway, Suite 100
  - Temecula, CA 92592
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Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery

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

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

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

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

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

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 at UC San Diego Health.

Steven Howe, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Associate Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery, Surgery

Murrieta - California Oaks Rd

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (951) 303-0734

Bio:
Steven Howe, MD, is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who specializes in treating a wide range of cardiovascular diseases, including aortic valve disease, coronary artery disease, and other peripheral and major vascular conditions. Dr. Howe performs adult cardiothoracic surgery, including peripheral and major vascular surgery, thoracic and abdominal endovascular surgery and thoracic trauma surgery.
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery (cont.)

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: (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 – thorascopy and robotics – to treat these conditions.

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.

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.
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.

John Lamberti, MD

Specialty:
Cardiothoracic (Heart and Lung) Surgery

Subspecialty:
Adult Congenital Heart Defects

Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

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

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

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
Palliative Care

Gary Buckholz, MD, FAAHPM
Palliative Medicine Physician
Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Palliative Care

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-9061

Bio:
Gary Buckholz, MD, is a board-certified palliative care specialist and hospice medical director (HDMC). The goal of palliative care is to prevent and relieve suffering and to support the best possible quality of life for patients and their families, regardless of the stage of disease or the need for other therapies. As such, it can be delivered at the same time with life-sustaining care or as the main focus of care.

Kyle P. Edmonds, MD, FAAHPM
Palliative Medicine Physician
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Palliative Care

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-9061

Bio:
Kyle P. Edmonds, MD, is a board-certified palliative care specialist. Palliative medicine focuses on improving the quality of life for people with serious illness and their families. It can help provide relief from symptoms, pain, and emotional stress. As part of the Doris A. Howell Palliative Care service, Dr. Edmonds consults with patients who have been admitted to UC San Diego Health’s hospitals in La Jolla and Hillcrest.

Jeremy Hirst, MD
Psychiatrist
Associate Director, Patient and Family Support Services, Moores Cancer Center

Specialties:
Psychiatry, Palliative Care, Cancer
Subspecialty:
Psychosocial Oncology

Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-9061

Bio:
Jeremy Hirst, MD, is a board-certified psychiatrist. As part of Patient & Family Support Services at Moores Cancer Center, he treats people who may be experiencing depression, anxiety, insomnia or other psychiatric symptoms that are either a result of the cancer experience or are interfering with cancer treatment. He can provide psychiatric assessments, treatment and medication management.

William Mitchell, MD
Medical Oncologist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialties:
Cancer, Palliative Care
Subspecialty:
Lung Cancer

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-9061

Bio:
William Mitchell, MD, is a board-certified medical oncologist. He cares for patients with all kinds of thoracic cancer, including lung cancer, mesothelioma and thymomas.
Palliative Care (cont.)

Tamara Rubenzik, MD
Nephrologist and Palliative Care Specialist

Specialties:
Nephrology (Kidney), Palliative Care

Subspecialties:
Chronic Kidney Disease, Dialysis, Critical Care Nephrology

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
Hillcrest - Medical Offices South
Moores Cancer Center
Jacobs Medical Center
Vista - Sycamore Avenue

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Palliative Care: (858) 534-9061
Direct Clinic Line - Vista: (760) 598-1776
Direct Clinic Line - Hillcrest: (619) 543-6248

Bio:
Tamara Rubenzik, MD, is a board-certified nephrologist and palliative care physician. She works in both the Departments of Nephrology and Palliative Care at UC San Diego Health.

Kira A Skavinski, DO
Palliative Care Specialist
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Specialty:
Palliative Care

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-9061

Bio:
Kira Skavinski, DO, is a board-certified palliative care physician who helps relieve suffering in people with life-limiting and chronic illnesses. She provides pain and symptom management, and aims to optimize quality of life for her patients and their families while addressing their medical, psychological, social, and spiritual needs. Dr. Skavinski also assists patients and their families with discussions regarding advance care planning and goals.

Maria Tiamson-Kassab, MD

Specialties:
Psychiatry, Palliative Care, Cancer

Subspecialty:
Psychosocial Oncology

Add'l Language:
Tagalog

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-9061

Bio:
Maria Tiamson-Kassab, MD, is a board-certified psychiatrist and the director of Moores Cancer Center's Patient & Family Support Services, which treats people who may be experiencing depression, anxiety, insomnia or other psychiatric symptoms that are either a result of the cancer experience or are interfering with cancer treatment. She can provide psychiatric assessment, treatment and medication management.
Kathryn (Kadee) Winters, MD  
Palliative Care Specialist  
Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**  
Palliative Care

**Jacobs Medical Center**  
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-9061

**Bio:**  
Kathryn (Kadee) Winters, MD, is a palliative care physician who provides supportive care for people with cancer or other life-threatening diseases. Palliative medicine focuses on improving the quality of life for people with serious illness and their families. It can help provide relief from symptoms, pain and emotional stress.

Heidi Yeung, MD  
Palliative Care Specialist  
Associate Professor of Medicine

**Specialty:**  
Palliative Care

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

**Jacobs Medical Center**  
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (858) 534-9061

**Bio:**  
Heidi Yeung, MD, is a board-certified hospice and palliative care specialist who manages pain and other symptoms related to disease or its treatment. She works with a multidisciplinary team to help individualize care for patients and their families.
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