Search Search

- Skip to Main Content
- Skip to Main Navigation
- Contact
- •
- Giving
- •
- <u>Volunteer</u>
- •
- About
- |
- Jobs
- •
- Newsroom

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Medical ServicesMake an AppointmentPatients & VisitorsFind a ProviderLocations

Menu

Search

Newsroom

Home / Newsroom / 2011 News Releases / News Release

- Press Releases
- UC San Diego Health In The News
- News Features
- Trending Topics
 - o COVID-19 Vaccine
 - o COVID-19 Research
 - Compassion
 - Q&As
 - Q&A: Launch of the T. Denny Sanford Institute for Empathy and Compassion
 - Q&A: The Neurobiology of Compassion
 - The Science of Empathy at UC San Diego
 - Learning and Practicing Empathy and Compassion
 - Bios
 - News and Resources
 - Organoids
 - Organoid Press Releases
 - Organoids in the News
 - Cannabis
 - Q&A: Cannabis
 - Cannabis 101

- Clinical Trials
- Cannabis Press Releases
- Suramin and Autism
 - Q and A
 - Parent Statements
 - Past Research
 - Poems
 - COVID-19 Response
- Bacteriophage Therapy
 - Tom's Story
 - Phage News
 - O & A
 - Phage 101
 - Phage Therapy FAQ
- Quantified Surgery
 - Q&A: Quantified Surgery
 - Bios: Quantified Surgery
- Cancer Immunotherapy
- Podcast
- Contacts for Journalists
- <u>Bigelow Science Communication Fellowship</u>
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Media Statements

Region's First Dedicated Cardiovascular Center at UC San Diego Getting Ready for Patients

March 01, 2011

Six years after receiving a naming gift from the Sulpizio family, the gleaming glass doors of the UC San Diego Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center (SCVC) will welcome patients from across the county and around the world. The center will open, in early April, as the region's first comprehensive, state-of-the art cardiovascular patient care and research facility.



In celebration of the SCVC opening, UC San Diego Health System leadership, donors, friends, and community leaders will join in a ceremonial ribbon cutting at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 4, 2011. The SCVC is located at 9434 Medical Center Drive, La Jolla, next to Thornton Hospital. The event will include a ribbon cutting and tours of the facility.

"We've aspired to this kind of center for 40 years," said SCVC director, Kirk Peterson, MD, FACP, FACC, who is also professor of clinical cardiology and a cardiology consultant for the Naval Regional Medical Center and the VA San Diego Healthcare System. "The SCVC represents the culmination of that effort – to have a facility in which all disciplines render cardiac care—housed where we can all work in close proximity."

"This type of collaboration is unique and does not exist anywhere else in San Diego," said Michael Madani, MD, associate professor of surgery and co-director of the SCVC. "Already, there has been a lot of positive energy generated by combining our efforts and working as a team under the same leadership."

The four-story, 128,000 square foot building has four operating rooms, six catherization labs, 22 day beds, 54 acute care beds and an expanded emergency department, shared with Thornton Hospital.

"The SCVC is a community resource," said Ehtisham Mahmud, MD, FACC, professor of medicine and cardiology, director of interventional cardiology and cardiovascular catheterization labs and co-director of the SCVC. "Cardiovascular medicine and surgical specialists will work together to determine optimal treatment strategies and, as the only comprehensive academic medical center in the region, we also train and educate the next generation of specialists in these fields."

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