Our Focus Is Your Overall Cardiac Health

Some cardiac centers specialize in the newest technologies. Others focus on research. And still others pride themselves on compassionate care of the entire person. At Scripps Mercy Hospital’s Heart Care Center, we specialize in every aspect of the heart.

We are a leading-edge provider of heart care in Southern California, with the resources and combined expertise of cardiologists and cardiac surgeons. Here, we are devoted exclusively to the education and prevention, diagnosis, research and treatment of cardiac disease. The result is a cardiac center named in 2004 as one of the Top 100 Hospitals for Cardiovascular Care in the nation and one of only two hospitals in the entire state of California by Solucient®.

It’s no wonder that our patients come to us from across California – putting their trust in our expertise, technology, medical excellence, research and caring support.

A Center with Experts That Other Experts Rely Upon

At our Heart Care Center, we have assembled an extraordinary team of experts in every area of heart care – from diagnostic services to advanced procedures, such as angioplasty, endoscopic bypass surgery, prosthetic valve implantation, pacemakers, drug-coated stent and treating abnormal heart rhythms. Our cardiac team includes:

- Cardiologists
- Cardiac Surgeons
- Cardiovascular Technologists
- Imaging Technologists
- Nurses
- Nutritionists
- Exercise Physiologists
- Psychologists
- Respiratory Therapists
- Social Workers

A Clear Choice in Cardiac Care

Because our team of cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, nurses, researchers and support staff are focused on one thing – your complete heart health – Scripps Mercy Hospital is your clear choice for outstanding cardiac care. As a trusted single source for diagnosis, prevention, treatment, innovation and research, our Heart Care Center sets standards for others to follow. And in so doing, we strive towards a world of healing.
A Long History of Cardiac Care
As San Diego County’s longest-established and largest medical center, Scripps Mercy Hospital offers patients a level of expertise not found in other centers, and our Heart Care Center has been caring for San Diego for 40 years. We have been able to provide leading-edge cardiac services, in part, from generous donations from the community.

Our patients and their families benefit from a rare combination of cardiac care excellence, research achievement for which Scripps is internationally known and a one-of-a-kind commitment to true compassion inspired by the mission of the Sisters of Mercy. In addition, Scripps Mercy established the first organized cardiac services in San Diego. Our heart professionals have years of experience and specialized training in:

- Bypass Surgery (Minimally Invasive, Off-Pump)
- Implantation of Cardiac Assist Devices
- Specialized Treatment for Congestive Heart Failure and Angina
- Implantable Atrial and Ventricular Defibrillators
- Treatments for Atrial Fibrillation for Heart Arrhythmia

We also established one of San Diego’s only Chest Pain Centers for on-the-spot diagnosis and treatment for patients – without waiting in the Emergency Department.

Compassionate Care for Your Heart
At Scripps Mercy’s Heart Care Center, we give you the kind of care and compassion you would expect from a world-class medical center. Our dedicated team of nurses, case managers, volunteers and other support staff are here to help you. For example, we partner with the American Heart Association and former cardiac patients to offer the Mended Hearts Program, a support group for American Heart Association and former cardiac patients are here to help you. For example, we partner with the American Heart Association and former cardiac patients are here to help you.

As part of our Robert Wood Johnson Pursuing Perfection Grant program, our staff established quality initiatives for heart attack patients to improve the level of care they receive and the timeliness in which they are seen. We also received one of six national VHA grants for improving the medication compliance of patients with limited proficiency in English by developing electronic translation of medication lists and drug therapies in layman’s terms and the patient’s preferred language.

There’s No Substitute for Experience
Established in 1890 by the Sisters of Mercy, Scripps Mercy Hospital offers a full range of services – including a Level I Trauma Center, 24-hour emergency services, cardiology and cardiac surgery, acute medical and surgical services, and obstetrics care – to people in South County and Central San Diego. With our two campuses, Scripps Mercy Hospital serves the San Diego and Chula Vista communities with professional expertise, leading-edge technology and a very special brand of care.

With 700 licensed beds, 1,300 physicians and more than 2,700 employees, we are one of the 10 largest medical centers in California and San Diego’s only Catholic hospital. At Scripps Mercy Hospital, we pride ourselves on the excellence of our Heart Care Center.

We’ve Got Your Heart Covered
Regardless of which procedures you may need, we’re here to pinpoint your heart problem, find the best treatments, control your symptoms and keep your heart health in check. We offer:

- Cardiology Consultation Services
- Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories (Four)
- Cardiac Rehabilitation, including External Counter Pulsation (ECP)
- Cardiac Research
- Cardiac Surgery
- Cardiac Ultrasound Laboratory (including Echoangiography and Vascular Sonography)
- Electrocardiography (EKG) Testing
- Electrophysiology
- Surgical Intensive Care Unit

A Place That Offers Hope
With new cardiac treatments and procedures, we bring renewed hope to heart patients. At the Heart Care Center, our staff conducts ongoing clinical research on investigational medicines and procedures. Many of our research findings are published in peer-reviewed journals.

Our current research efforts include a study on individuals who fail to tolerate cholesterol-lowering medicines (“statins”) and the potential damage to their muscle tissue; one that employs a special software to measure patients’ breathing when using or not using a given drug therapy and to lower their cholesterol when they cannot tolerate statins; a medication study for patients receiving a drug stent to find the best combination of medications for the stent; a national database of stent patients and outcomes; and a study comparing a clot-busting drug (tenecteplase) with a standard treatment for heart attack patients.

As part of our Robert Wood Johnson Pursuing Perfection Grant program, our staff established quality initiatives for heart attack patients to improve the level of care they receive and the timeliness in which they are seen. We also received one of six national VHA grants for improving the medication compliance of patients with limited proficiency in English by developing electronic translation of medication lists and drug therapies in layman’s terms and the patient’s preferred language.

Let Us Know How We Can Help
The specialists at the Scripps Mercy Hospital’s Heart Care Center are here to help you via phone or an office consultation. Whether you are a referring physician, a patient or family member, Scripps Mercy Hospital is an invaluable resource on the cause, effect, diagnosis and treatment of heart disease.

To learn more, please call the Heart Care Center at (619) 260-7001 (San Diego campus) or the Cardiopulmonary Department at (619) 691-7366 (Chula Vista campus).