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UC San Diego Thornton Operating Room

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Thornton Hospital



Da Vinci robotic surgery



Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center

Thornton Hospital has a 7 suite Operating Room. Since 1993 many innovative surgical procedures have been performed. We currently do 4,700 surgeries a year. The volume of surgeries and demand for O.R. time has grown in the last decade.

Surgical specialties range from minimally invasive procedures using two Da Vinci® robotic systems to an expanding Cardiothoracic Service which includes the PTE program, Cardiac Transplantation and devices for cardiac support, including left ventricular assist devices (LVADs) for destination therapy. Additionally, the academic environment has expanded the types and variety of surgical interventions to include the latest total joint orthopedic procedures, complex plastic reconstructive and head and neck surgeries, major complex spine and neurosurgical interventions, advanced Gynecological surgeries and a fast growing Urology service.

Our staff is comprised of OR nurses and Surgical Technologists who take pride in the ongoing learning required by the performance of these very challenging surgeries. The team is continuously engaged and collaborates with physicians to bring an evidencebased perioperative nursing practice at its best.

Our growth continues with the opening of San Diego's first comprehensive cardiovascular center — the Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center — in April 2011. This new facility will add four more Operating Rooms to the current ones at Thornton.



Maria Camilon, RN, MSN, CNOR became the Assistant Director of Perioperative Services La Jolla Campus this year. She received her BSN from the University of Santo Tomas, Philippines and her MSN from the University of Phoenix. She has worked at UC San Diego since 1986, first as a Clinical Nurse III Hillcrest Main OR, with specialty in Cardiothoracic Surgery. She became the Clinical Educator of the Hillcrest OR in 2005 and Thornton OR Nurse Manager in 2006.