

# Best Cardiac Care in Texas

TEXAS CARDIAC ARRHYTHMIA INSTITUTE



ACHIEVING NEW FRONTIERS IN CARDIAC CARE

A HEART PROCEDURE SO DRAMATIC,  
WE PERFORM IT IN A THEATER  
★ AND BROADCAST IT AROUND THE WORLD. ★



Andrea Natale, MD, FACC, FHRS, Executive Medical Director of TCAI

Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia Institute. Home to an experienced team of nine electrophysiologists, led by internationally renowned atrial fibrillation expert **Dr. Andrea Natale**, and supported by state-of-the-art robotic technologies.

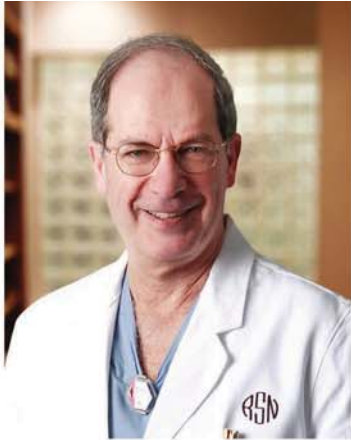
Our mission is twofold. First, to perform the essential

procedures and treatments that help correct irregular heartbeat in thousands of patients both locally and globally. Second, to further the understanding and treatment of atrial fibrillation through cutting-edge clinical research—serving as an educational training center for physicians from around the world.

TCAI physician team: Andrea Natale, MD, FACC, FHRS, Shane M. Bailey, MD, J. David Burkhardt, MD, Robert C. Canby, MD, FACC, G. Joseph Gallinghouse, MD, Rodney P. Horton, MD, FACC, Larry D. Price, DO, Javier E. Sanchez, MD, and Jason D. Zagrodzky, MD.

**TEXAS CARDIAC ARRHYTHMIA INSTITUTE**  
StDavid's Medical Center

TCAIINSTITUTE.COM 877-887-7737



## ROBERT N. SCHNITZLER, MD

F.A.C.C., F.A.C.P., F.S.C.A.I.,  
F.C.C.P., F.H.R.S., F.A.H.A.

Over the past 30 years, I have been fortunate to watch advances in technology that enable heart specialists to preserve and improve the quality of life. These have included sophisticated pacemakers, blood vessel stents, and transplantation.

Now, we are entering a new phase that includes anticipating illness with genetic testing, sophisticated diagnostic tools — computer tomography for coronary disease, MRI, 3-D Echo cardiography — and new treatments, such as regenerating new heart muscle from primordial cells.

The most exciting event is to improve the quality of life in heart failure patients with medications and electrical devices as well as the promise of re-building damaged heart muscle.

I am looking forward to bringing these advances to the patients under my care.

Sincerely,  
Robert N. Schnitzler, M.D.

"It is a high honor for me to write these lines in admiration and friendship to Dr. Robert N. Schnitzler. I met Dr. Schnitzler in San Antonio, Texas in February of 1992 during a presidential summit, hosted by president George Bush, in which Dr. Schnitzler was the chief medical officer in charge of the health of the attending presidents. There was a great deal of interaction between Dr. Schnitzler and myself and his

## Restoring health, one patient at a time

**W**hen patients have medical emergencies in the middle of the night, they often find Dr. Robert Schnitzler by their bedside caring for them through the crisis. A cardiovascular specialist who pioneered dozens of cardiology firsts, Schnitzler is equally committed to providing patients with attentive care to help them recover from life-threatening emergencies and prevent future problems.

**LEADING THE FIELD** Schnitzler of Schnitzler Cardiovascular consultants, PLLC, is a nationally renowned authority in the field of electrophysiology. One of the first physicians certified in cardiac electrophysiology, Schnitzler has spent more than 30 years investigation new ways to treat dysrhythmias, congestive heart failure and hypertension. He has had the status of clinical professor of medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and previously served as chief of staff for the Methodist Specialty & Transplant Hospital.

**ATTENTION TO DETAIL** Schnitzler builds close relationships with his patients, spending the time necessary to understand their medical histories and conditions in minute detail. He prides himself on working with the sickest patients and helping them regain their health. "It has very real meaning to me when someone who has been desperately ill can now

bring their grandchildren in to see you four years later just to say hello," he says. "It's rewarding to know that you've done what you need to do to help someone reestablish their lives after being ill."

**HIGH-TECH HEARTS** To provide a complete overview of a patient's cardiovascular system, Schnitzler uses San Antonio's most advanced facilities for diagnostic testing, then applies state-of-the-art techniques to solve problems like blocked arteries and irregular heart rhythms. Along with a bilingual staff of acute care specialists, Schnitzler personally provides follow-up care and medical management services for patients with complex cardiac disease, including those who had open heart or heart transplant surgeries.

**OUNCE OF PREVENTION** A desire to focus on prevention prompted Schnitzler to open the San Antonio Wellness Institute, which provides comprehensive medical evaluation and preventive strategies to help patients improve and maintain their overall health. Patients undergo in-depth diagnostic testing and consultation over a two day period with multiple physicians, including Schnitzler. Then the

team creates a wellness program specifically designed to match each patient's clinical needs. "I want to be there for my patients when they are ill," he adds. "Giving patients that access to me as their personal physician is extraordinarily important to me."



L to R: Maria Cristina Rodriguez, RN, BSN, M. Farivar, MD,  
Eddie Davenport, MD, Victoria Paparelli, RN, MSN, CCNS-AC

profound medical-scientific knowledge, his great humanist side, his admirable ethical composure and his high sense of responsibility greatly impressed me. Dr. Schnitzler is a medic by vocation, to whom medicine is an apostolic charge of service to society. I greatly admire his loyalty to the Hippocratic oath and I reiterate my sentiments of gratitude and friendship."

Rodrigo Borja  
Former President of Ecuador

SCHNITZLER CARDIOVASCULAR CONSULTANTS, PLLC

8122 Datapoint, Suite 700, San Antonio, TX 78229

Phone: 210-615-0600

*New address effective January, 2010*

# Concierge Medicine San Antonio Wellness Institute



Robert N. Schnitzler, MD  
Medical Director



Maria Cristina Rodriguez, RN, BSN  
President

At the San Antonio Wellness Institute (S.A.W.I.), the clinical staff strongly believes in taking a holistic approach to their patients' health. They give patients head-to-toe evaluations each year to diagnose illnesses or medical issues long before symptoms indicate disease.

It's a concierge care model in which patients receive a battery of tests, lab work, ultrasounds, MRIs, and other diagnostic screenings during a two day visit. Patients also see several specialists, from urologists, gastroenterologists to ophthalmologists, who communicate closely and consult with each other regarding the patient's findings.

Under the direction of Dr. Robert Schnitzler, a world renowned cardiologist, internal medicine specialist, and electrophysiologist, S.A.W.I. has been offering wellness services since 2000. S.A.W.I. receives patients from around the world, including heads of state and corporate executives, who appreciate the personal attention, thorough medical care, and philosophy of prevention.

A significant percentage of the patients have normal findings. Their goal being to address medical problems prior to illness, gives them tremendous peace of mind," says S.A.W.I.'s President Maria Cristina Rodriguez, RN, BSN. "Our primary objective is to promote well being."

S.A.W.I. has a strong track record of diagnosing serious illnesses at their most preliminary stages, as an example a kidney cancer so early that it was far below the usual level of detection and brain blood vessels treated with some of the earliest stents placed in that location. This early detection gives patients more options for treatment and helps them obtain the best possible outcomes. Other patients have shown vast improvement in their health related diet, exercise, and medication regimens developed by physicians.

Many corporations partner with the San Antonio Wellness Institute to offer health and well-being benefits to their employees and executives. Others visit S.A.W.I. as individuals or as families, which might include children with special needs, elderly parents, or people with chronic conditions.

While taking advantage of a medical epicenter for wellness, patients also leave confident that their doctors left no stone unturned in their quest for optimal health. "Recently a patient, who is the chairman of the board of a major corporation, expressed that our attention to detail was exceptional as well as the level of comfort and the quality of care," says Rodriguez. "It's why patients keep coming back to us year after year."



César Garza    Mónica González    Paula Lopez

"Over the years I have been very impressed by the high quality of medical services I have received from Dr. Robert N. Schnitzler and his team. Because I understand the prevalence of heart diseases in our society and because I have worked hard to maintain a level of physical fitness, I have made it a practice to visit Dr. Schnitzler at a set time every year. During that pre-established visit I undergo a complete physical examination, including a stress test on a treadmill and detailed evaluation by Dr. Schnitzler. I have found his team to be highly professional and efficient in the administration of the requisite tests. I have also found my visits with Dr. Schnitzler, in which he evaluates the results of the tests and provides guidance for the year ahead, to be extremely helpful based on these experiences, I highly recommend Dr. Schnitzler and his colleagues as a resource for any person seeking an overall medical assessment utilizing state-of-the-art equipment and the most advanced medical technologies.

On a larger scale, as a former Mayor of San Antonio who worked to enhance the biosciences sector of our economy, I am proud that Dr. Schnitzler has developed the capability to extend medical services beyond the city's limits. At a time when every person should have regular access to the high quality diagnostic systems and evaluations which Dr. Schnitzler offers. I am pleased that his methodologies and procedures are now offered on an international scale and made available to professionals and employees of entire companies. These are wonderful resources and should be utilized by as many people as possible.

Dr. Schnitzler is the ultimate medical professional. He is dedicated, hard working, attentive to refining his skills and constantly advancing his knowledge about the latest medical innovations and breakthroughs. He applies the latest in global medical innovations to his practice and makes it available to his patients. I am very happy to be one of those patients and am pleased to know that those services are now available to more people on an international basis."

Sincerely,

Henry Cisneros  
CEO and Executive Director of  
America City Vista

San Antonio Wellness Institute, Ltd

8122 Datapoint, Suite 700, San Antonio, TX 78229 • Phone : 210 615-8668 • Website: [www.sawellnessinstitute.com](http://www.sawellnessinstitute.com)

# Best Cardiac Care in Texas

**Andrea Natale, M.D., FACC, FHRS**

*Executive Medical Director*

**Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia Institute at St. David's  
Medical Center**

World-renowned electrophysiologist, Andrea Natale, M.D., FACC, FHRS, leads the Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia Institute (TCAI) as Executive Medical Director. Located in Austin, Texas, TCAI is an international treatment, training and research institute specializing in the care of heart rhythm disorders.

As a dedicated clinician, academician and researcher, Natale is a thought leader in the field who guides developments and innovative advances in the treatment of atrial fibrillation. His goal is to improve patient care worldwide through the use of new techniques utilizing new technologies such as robotic catheter systems and specialized ablation catheters.

While serving on leading advisory boards across the country, Natale has been involved in every major research study that pertains to complex and difficult-to-treat atrial and ventricular arrhythmias. He trains physicians worldwide on new technologies and is widely published on the treatment of cardiac arrhythmias.

In addition to Natale, the team of physicians at TCAI includes: Shane M. Bailey, M.D., J. David Burkhardt, M.D., F.A.C.C., Robert C. Canby, M.D., F.A.C.C., Rodney P. Horton M.D., G.

Joseph Gallinghouse, M.D., Larry D. Price, D.O., Javier E. Sanchez, M.D., and Jason D. Zagrodzky, M.D. Their reputation attracts patients seeking an arrhythmia-free life from every corner of the globe. With the expertise of these physicians, the future of arrhythmia treatment is at the Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia Institute at St. David's Medical Center. For more information, visit [TCAInstitute.com](http://TCAInstitute.com).

## **The Heart and Vascular Center at Huguley**

We hope you never need the services of The Heart and Vascular Center at Huguley, but if you do, we're ready. Our complete range of diagnostic and interventional procedures is always available, 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.

We understand that in an emergency, seconds count. The Huguley Emergency Department/Chest Pain Center and cardiac catheterization lab surpass the national goal to reduce the time it takes for heart attack patients to be treated. Quicker treatment means less damage to your heart and other organs.

We have two surgical suites specifically designed for open-heart surgery, an intensive care unit dedicated to cardiovascular patients, and cardiac rehabilitation services for outpatients that incorporate exercise, education and emotional support to improve heart health.

Even though we're ready in an emergency, don't wait for one. Our cardiologists can evaluate and improve your cardiovascular health. For a referral, call 817-568-5599.

# Helping you keep the rhythm.



Physician Referral 817-568-5599

**THE HEART AND  
VASCULAR CENTER**  
**AT HUGULEY**

## FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION

Having heart failure means your heart can't pump enough blood to meet your body's needs. If left untreated, it can be life-threatening. However, once diagnosed, there are many treatments available to heart failure patients to help them live full and rewarding lives.

If you or someone in your family has a history of heart problems, come see the experts at the Scott & White Advanced Heart Failure Clinic. Here you will find the innovative services that make Scott & White a trusted leader in heart and vascular care in Central Texas.

**Contact us to learn more or to schedule your one-on-one evaluation.**

**877-393-5827**

**[help4hf@swmail.sw.org](mailto:help4hf@swmail.sw.org)**

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## Best Cardiac Care in Texas

### EXPERIENCE TAKEN TO HEART



The Children's Heart Program at CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children's Hospital cares for more children with congenital and other acquired heart conditions than any other in South-Central Texas. Affiliated with the University of Texas Health Science Center, our program provides a comprehensive array of services and a team of dedicated specialists.



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### CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children's Hospital

The Children's Heart Program at CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children's Hospital cares for more children with congenital and other acquired heart conditions than any other in South-Central Texas. Affiliated with the University of Texas Health Science Center, our program provides a comprehensive array of services and a team of dedicated specialists.

Our expertise in echocardiography, electrophysiology, interventional cardiology, intensive care, and pediatric anesthesia coupled with our participation in cutting edge clinical research allows us to deliver another first to the children of South-Central Texas. CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children's Hospital, First in San Antonio, Second to None.



### Prevention, education and treatment is the focus of The Heart Institute's battle against heart disease

Dr. Bachireddy opened The Heart Institute of East Texas in Lufkin, Texas 28 years ago. He along with his associates Drs Chandra, Kovvali, Hudson, Khan, Mani, Khoshnevis, Gill and Siddiqui have been at the forefront of the fight against heart disease in the East Texas region.

Serving 13 counties, they created one of the most modern cardiology centers in Texas, which includes a nationally accredited cardiac catheterization lab performing over 500 cardiac catheterizations per year.

The Heart Institute's cardiovascular center offers cardiac stress testing, nuclear imaging, echocardiography, pacemaker and defibrillator clinic, a vascular clinic and patient education programs. The physician's involvement in the creation of the award winning, technologically advanced heart centers at both of Lufkin's hospitals makes it possible for East Texans to stay close to home for the most difficult & complicated heart procedures.

Their goal is to educate the community in the prevention of cardiovascular disease by working with local organizations to improve the health of Texas residents.



OF EAST TEXAS, P.A.  
"Serving East Texas Since 1982"

# Best Cardiac Care in Texas

# 28 years of State of the Heart Care.

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*More Experience. More Resources. More Heart.*

*We're battling heart disease by focusing on treatment, prevention and cardiac rehabilitation. Our facility, which includes a nationally accredited cardiac catheterization lab, is one of the most modern cardiology centers in Texas.*



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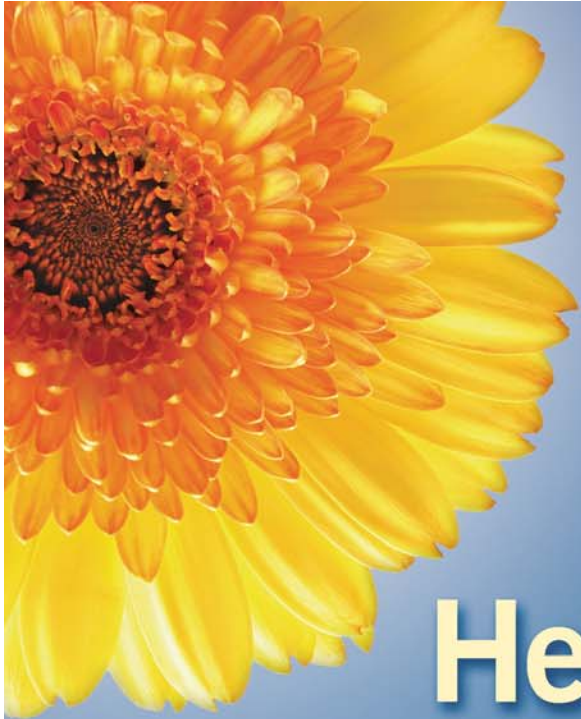
1900 South "D" Street, McAllen, TX 78503  
956-994-2000

Physicians are independent practitioners who are not employees or agents of South Texas Health System. The hospitals shall not be liable for actions or treatments provided by physicians.

\* Expires March 31, 2010.



**Best Cardiac Care in Texas**



# Helping our patients live brightly.



**Methodist**  
HEALTH SYSTEM

Where life shines bright.<sup>SM</sup>

**At Methodist Health System**, we want your life to shine. That's why we're on a mission to save and improve the lives of people across North Texas. We're growing to better serve patients with quality, compassionate care. And we're bringing innovative new treatments to get you back to life faster. Methodist Health System is **where life shines bright**.

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[www.MethodistHealthSystem.org](http://www.MethodistHealthSystem.org)