



VIKAS RAO, MD, FAANS

Orange County Neurosurgical Associates

Dr. Vikas Rao is a board-certified fellowship trained Neurosurgeon specializing in brain surgery, cerebrovascular and endovascular neurosurgery, brain tumor treatments, and minimally invasive spine surgery.

One of only a few “dual-trained” vascular neurosurgeons in Southern California, Dr. Rao offers both surgical treatments and minimally invasive endovascular treatments for the management of brain vascular diseases. He is a specialist in the treatment of brain aneurysms, stroke, brain bleeds, arteriovenous malformations (AVMs), and carotid stenosis. With his training he treats complex cerebrovascular disorders like brain aneurysms either with surgery or minimally invasive catheter-based treatments via a tiny nick in the wrist or groin. Since he can offer both styles of treatment, patients can weigh the pros and cons of both options and make the ultimate decision on their care.

Dr. Rao is also a highly skilled brain tumor surgeon, having trained at the world-famous MD Anderson Cancer Center. Ever on the leading edge, Dr. Rao offers the latest technology and treatments for brain tumors including awake craniotomies, minimally invasive “key-hole” approaches for brain surgery, computer guided surgical tools, fluorescent guided tumor surgery and stereotactic radiosurgery. In addition, Dr. Rao believes in performing “hair-sparing” and cosmetically sensitive brain surgery.

“I was born in Orange County and I returned here to raise my family and build a career of providing high-quality specialized care to patients in my community,” says Dr. Rao. “As a small team, my practice is able to provide patients personalized attention. I spend a lot of time with my patients and try to explain everything in as clear a manner as possible so that they are informed about their options,” he says.

PRACTICE FOCUS

- Brain Aneurysms and AVMs
- Brain Tumors and Skull base surgery
- Brain and Spine Trauma
- Hydrocephalus and Shunt procedures
- Trigeminal Neuralgia and facial pain
- Minimally invasive and robotic spine surgery

EDUCATION

- **Undergraduate**
University of California, Berkeley
- **Medical School**
USC Keck School of Medicine
- **Neurosurgery Residency**
Baylor College of Medicine / MD Anderson Cancer Center
- **Cerebrovascular Fellowship**
Drexel Neurosciences Institute

CURRENT POSITIONS

- Providence Mission Hospital, Mission Viejo
 - Co-director Cerebrovascular Neurosurgery
 - Director of Neurooncology
 - Director of Neurotrauma
- Memorial Care Saddleback Medical Center, Laguna Hills
 - Medical Director, Stroke and Neurointerventional Service
- On staff at Hoag Hospital, Newport Beach

AWARDED
2022
ORANGE COUNTY
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
PHYSICIAN OF EXCELLENCE

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