



“Salinas Valley Memorial is well positioned both in terms of location and capabilities to care for these patients.”

—David Ramos, MD
Emergency Medicine Physician,
Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine

PHYSICIAN PROFILE

DAVID RAMOS, MD

vital stats

Role: Emergency Department Physician; Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine; SVMHS medical staff member since July 1999
Serves on the Trauma Steering and Facilities committees

Specialty: Emergency Medicine

Board Certification: American Board of Emergency Medicine

Education: Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Wichita State University, Kansas, 1984
Doctor of Medicine, University of Kansas School of Medicine, Kansas City, 1991

Internship: General Surgery, William Beaumont Army Medical Center, El Paso, Texas, 1992

Residency: Emergency Medicine, Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma, Washington, 1997



During a tactical medicine course, David Ramos, MD (left) practiced patient care in a mock high-risk situation.

David Ramos grew up in a military family, so becoming an Army doctor was a natural fit, and it prepared him for life in the Emergency Department at Salinas Valley Memorial. “As an intern, resident and then doctor in the Army, I had to quickly make critical decisions that affected hundreds, even thousands of lives.”

That training comes in handy whenever a trauma patient comes in to Salinas Valley Memorial’s Emergency Department. SVMHS treats approximately 400 trauma cases each year, but another 241 are flown out. “Because our county does not have a trauma center, critically injured victims are often flown to Santa Barbara or the Bay Area,” Ramos explains. “Salinas Valley Memorial is well positioned both in terms of location and capabilities to care for these patients. A trauma center here would reduce the need for flights and related costs, which can be significant.”

Dr. Ramos continues to go above and beyond the call of duty in caring for patients, the hospital and the community. As a member of the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital Foundation Board of Governors, he helps raise funds to support hospital services.

To further hone his emergency medical skills, Dr. Ramos recently completed a tactical medicine course. “The motto of the course is ‘The best medicine in the worst places,’” he says. “I’d add, ‘with the best people’ to the end of that.” The specialized training not only benefits his patients and emergency department team, it also equips him to volunteer with local law enforcement in high-risk instances, such as a hostage situation. “This training prepared me to provide additional support to the community as a volunteer, as well as in emergency room and trauma center settings.”

Ramos and the love of his life have a blended family with three grown children between them, one his, two hers. “In my personal life, a great joy is helping children wake up to their potential. In my professional life, it’s caring for patients and managing my department a little better every day.”