



○ Dr. Javier M. Gonzalez

Working for the non-profit group “Heart to Heart” as a guardian for a child with a congenital heart malformation, Dr. Gonzalez traveled from Colombia to the United States — the trip changed his life. Not only did he decide to focus his medical studies on cardiology, but he also decided to stay in the U.S. Dr. Gonzalez, a graduate of the Universidad del Norte in Barranquilla, left his general practice in his small hometown to study cardiology at Brooklyn Hospital Center’s joint program with Cornell University. What he didn’t leave in Colombia was his philosophy of global “whole patient” care. His focus is the heart, but Dr. Gonzalez believes listening to his patients not only identifies problems to be directed toward other medical professions but also supports patients’ emotional health and builds a deeper connection for better patient outcomes. Dr. Gonzalez balances work and family by spending as much time as possible outdoors with his children, especially fishing. “If there is a puddle in my backyard, I will try to catch a fish in it,” he says. He is a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology.

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