## **Dr. Christian Pizarro Recognized Among 2021 Al Dia Top Doctors**

In distinguished class of Latino doctors in Philadelphia region



Christian Pizarro, MD

Christian Pizarro, MD, Director, Nemours Cardiac Center at the Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children, has been recognized as a Top Doctor in the Philadelphia I am honored to receive this distinction and owe a debt of gratitude to many, including my father, who was a pediatric heart surgeon.

region by Al Dia. Every year, Al Dia, a bilingual news organization, uses its platform to shed light on the importance of equity in public health and individuals promoting excellence in the medical field.

Dr. Pizarro was among 12 outstanding Latino doctors recognized in the fourth annual award presentation, held virtually this year. In receiving the honor, Dr. Pizarro, a native of Santiago, Chile, thanked his mentors, including his father, also a pediatric heart surgeon. He described newborn heart surgery as a particularly rewarding and challenging field and encouraged young physicians to work hard, pursue opportunities and follow their dreams, saying that his were largely realized at Nemours.

Keynote speaker at the award ceremony was Pennsylvania Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine, who has been nominated to serve as Assistant Secretary of Health for the Biden Administration. Dr. Levine said, "it is tremendously important to encourage diversity in medicine. We need more Latino physicians in our workforce."

In addition to his role as director of the Cardiac Center, Dr. Pizarro is also Chief, Cardiothoracic Surgery, and Director, Heart Transplant Program at Nemours, and Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics, Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University. Under his direction, patient outcomes for cardiac surgical, catheterization and ablation procedures at the Nemours Cardiac Center are outstanding and exceed national benchmarks.

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