Physicians of the Nemours Cardiac Center
1600 Rockland Road | Wilmington, DE 19803 | Tel: 302-651-6600 | Fax: 302-651-5345 | Nemours.org/cardiaccenter

Caring for each child as if they were our own. The Nemours Cardiac Center is dedicated and specially designed to deliver state of the art care to infants, children and teenagers with heart disease. We offer a full range of diagnostic and treatment services to patients with congenital and acquired heart disease ranging from the common to the extremely complex. The staff at both our primary site and various clinic locations consists of board certified physicians, nurses, physician assistants, technicians and support personnel, all highly experienced in, and dedicated to, the care of children with heart problems.

Our facilities have been specifically designed by our medical staff in order to provide the very best care to our patients and their families. All diagnostic, treatment, and recovery areas are contiguous, spacious and modern with the latest equipment, including a new dedicated cardiac intensive care unit and state-of-the-art catheterization lab.

Conditions we evaluate:
- Chest pain
- Cyanosis
- Fainting
- Fast or irregular heartbeat
- Heart murmurs
- Hyperlipidemia
- Hypertension

Areas of expertise:
- Aortic surgery
- Heart transplants and valve repairs
- Mechanical circulatory support (bypass)
- Neonatal surgery
- Fetal cardiology
- Cardiac catheterization
- Preventive cardiology
- Single-ventricle palliation
- Thoracic surgery

Additional services:
- Electrocardiograms or echocardiograms performed and evaluated during the same office visit
- Specialized remote monitoring for a child’s heart rhythm from their home
- Follow-up care after a child is discharged from the hospital
- Exercise testing

CARDIOLOGISTS

Paul C. Anisman, MD is a graduate of George Washington University School of Medicine. Dr. Anisman served his internship and residency in pediatrics as well as a fellowship in pediatric cardiology at the University of Miami, Jackson Memorial Hospital. He is board certified in pediatric cardiology. His special interests include fetal cardiology and pediatric echocardiography.
Provides care in Wilmington, DE; Philadelphia, PA; and Newtown Square, PA

Gina M. Baffa, MD is Director of Echocardiography and Co-Director of Education. She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Dr. Baffa served her residency in pediatrics as well as her fellowship in pediatric cardiology at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Baffa spent an additional year at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia as a fourth-year fellow in advanced non-invasive imaging. Dr. Baffa is board certified in pediatric cardiology. Her special interests include pediatric echocardiography, transesophageal echocardiography, cardiac MRI and management of children with complex types of heart disease.
Provides care in Wilmington, DE; and Collegeville, PA

A. Majeed Bhat, MD is a graduate of the Government Medical College of Srinagar/University of Kashmir. Dr. Bhat served his residencies at South Baltimore General Hospital and University of Maryland Hospital. He completed his fellowships in neonatology at Georgetown University Hospital and in pediatric cardiology at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Ohio. He is board certified in pediatrics, pediatric cardiology and neonatal/perinatal medicine. His special interests include fetal echocardiography and management of fetal and neonatal congenital heart disease.
Provides care in Wilmington, DE; Dover, DE; and Wynnewood, PA

To schedule an appointment and complete registration, please call 302-651-4200
Night and weekend emergencies, call 302-651-4000
For more information, visit Nemours.org/cardiaccenter
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Michael A. McCulloch, MD is a graduate of the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in San Antonio School of Medicine and served both his residency in pediatrics and his fellowship in pediatric cardiology at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. During his fellowship, he also obtained his Masters of Public Health Science. Dr. McCulloch is board certified in pediatrics and pediatric cardiology. His special interests include echocardiography, cardiac MRI, cardiac intensive care and pulmonary arterial hypertension.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE

Wolfgang A. K. Radtke, MD is Director, Diagnostic and Interventional Catheterization Lab. He is a graduate of Kiel University Medical School in Germany. Dr. Radtke completed his residency and fellowship in pediatrics at Kiel University Children’s Hospital. He served a fellowship in pediatric cardiology at Children’s Hospital Boston. Prior to joining Nemours, Dr. Radtke practiced at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh where he was Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine. He is board certified in pediatric cardiology and specializes in cardiac catheterization and interventional cardiology.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE

Steven B. Ritz, MD is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Dr. Ritz completed his residency in pediatrics and his fellowship in pediatric cardiology at Children’s Memorial Hospital in Chicago. He is board certified in pediatrics and pediatric cardiology. His special interests include congenital heart defects, structural heart disease associated with genetic syndromes and resident education.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE; Egg Harbor Township, NJ; Vineland, NJ; and Voorhees, NJ

Bradley W. Robinson, MD is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine. Dr. Robinson completed his residency in pediatrics at Sinai Hospital of Baltimore. He served his fellowship in pediatric cardiology at the University of Miami, Jackson Memorial Hospital. He is board certified in pediatric cardiology. His special interests include echocardiography and exercise physiology.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE; Lancaster, PA; Newtown Square, PA; and Philadelphia, PA

Joel D. Temple, MD is Director of Cardiac Electrophysiology. He is a graduate of the University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Temple completed his internship as well as his residency in pediatrics at Portsmouth Naval Medical Center. Dr. Temple served his fellowship in pediatric cardiology at Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital. He is board certified in pediatrics and in pediatric cardiology and has additional certification in cardiac pacing. His special interests include cardiac arrhythmias, sudden death, and pacemakers.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE; Seaford, DE; and Pensacola, FL

Deepika Thacker, MD is a graduate of Seth GS Medical College. Dr. Thacker served her residencies in pediatrics at Seth GS Medical College and SUNY Downstate Medical Center. She completed her fellowship in pediatric cardiology and advanced imaging at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Thacker is board certified in pediatrics. Her special interests include pediatric echocardiography, fetal echocardiography, complex congenital heart disease and management of single-ventricle physiology.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE; Seafood, DE; Voorhees, NJ; and Lancaster, PA

Samuel S. Gidding, MD is Chief of Cardiology and Director of Cardiac Outreach Programs. He is a graduate of The Robert Wood Johnson Medical School of New Jersey. Dr. Gidding completed his residency in pediatrics at the State University of New York, and served his fellowship in pediatric cardiology at the University of Michigan and the C. S. Mott Children’s Hospital. He is board certified in pediatric cardiology. His special interests include preventive cardiology, congenital heart disease, fetal cardiology and Kawasaki disease.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE; Egg Harbor Township, NJ; Vineland, NJ; and Voorhees, NJ
Takeshi Tsuda, MD is a graduate of Shinshu University School of Medicine in Nagano, Japan. Dr. Tsuda completed his residency in pediatrics at Shinshu University Medical Center, as well as a residency in pediatrics at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. He also served his fellowship in pediatric cardiology and cardiology research at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. He is board certified in pediatrics and in pediatric cardiology. His special interests include congenital heart disease, heart failure and cardiomyopathy. Dr. Tsuda also runs a heart failure research laboratory at Nemours Biomedical Research Department at the Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE; and Egg Harbor Township, NJ

Frances R. Zappalla, DO is a graduate of the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Zappalla completed her residency in pediatrics at Brookdale Hospital Medical Center in Brooklyn, and served her fellowship in pediatric cardiology at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. She also completed a two-year fellowship in integrative medicine at the University of Arizona, Tucson. She is board certified in pediatric cardiology and her special interests include cardiovascular risk factors in children and adolescents, pediatric obesity, nutrition and preventive cardiology.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE; Collegeville, PA; and Newtown Square, PA

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Erica Sood, PhD obtained her doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology from Temple University in Philadelphia and completed her residency and fellowship training in Pediatric Psychology at duPont Hospital for Children. Her specific interests include neurodevelopmental and social-emotional outcomes of children with congenital heart disease and family coping with pediatric illness.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE

INTENSIVISTS

Caroline D. Boyd, MD is Medical Director of the ECMO Program. She is a graduate of Wake Forest University School of Medicine. Dr. Boyd completed an internship, as well as a residency in pediatrics at East Carolina University School of Medicine. Dr. Boyd served her fellowship in pediatric critical care at the Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. She is board certified in pediatrics and has a subspecialty certificate in pediatric critical care medicine. Her special interests include thyroid hormone replacement therapy after cardiac surgery and ECMO support in the critically ill child.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE

Deborah A. Davis, MD is Director of the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit. She is a graduate of Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital. Dr. Davis completed her residency in pediatrics at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, as well as a residency in anesthesiology at Temple University School of Medicine. She served her fellowship in pediatric anesthesiology and critical care medicine at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. She is board certified in pediatrics, anesthesiology and has a subspecialty certificate in pediatric critical care medicine. Her special interests include management of pulmonary hypertension in children with congenital heart disease, intraoperative use of high-frequency jet ventilation, endothelial response of the cerebral microcirculation during cardiopulmonary bypass and fetal cardiac anesthesia.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE

Russell C. Raphaely, MD is Co-Director of Nemours Cardiac Center. He is a graduate of New York Medical College. Dr. Raphaely completed a rotating internship at St. Vincent’s Hospital and a residency in anesthesiology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Raphaely served his fellowship in pediatric anesthesiology and critical care medicine at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. He is board certified in anesthesiology and has a subspecialty certificate in critical care medicine. His special interests include management of neonates, infants, children and adolescents with congenital or acquired cardiovascular disease.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE
Christian Pizarro, MD is Director of Nemours Cardiac Center and Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery. He is a graduate of the University of Chile School of Medicine. Dr. Pizarro completed an internship and residency in pediatrics at the University of Maryland and a residency in anesthesia at Brigham and Women’s Hospital. She served her fellowship in pediatric anesthesia and critical care medicine at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Pizarro is board certified in pediatrics, anesthesia and has a subspecialty certificate in pediatric critical care medicine. Her special interests include anticoagulation for pediatric extracorporeal circulatory support, performance measurement and improvement in pediatric cardiac care.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE

ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

John W. Ostrowski, MD is a graduate of the UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School. Dr. Ostrowski completed an internship in anesthesia at UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School. Dr. Ostrowski served his residency in anesthesia at New York University Medical Center, as well as a fellowship in cardiac anesthesia. He completed pediatric cardiac anesthesia training at the New York University Medical Center and Children’s Hospital Boston. He is board certified in anesthesia. His special interests include neurodevelopmental outcome in pediatric cardiac surgery.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE

Abhaya R. Seshachar, MD is a graduate of St. John’s Medical College, Bangalore. Dr. Seshachar completed an internship in medicine and surgery at St. John’s Medical College Hospital and a residency in anesthesia at Sir J.J. Group of Hospitals in Mumbai, India. In the U.S., he underwent internships in transitional medicine and surgery at Overlook Hospital, Summit, NJ. He completed his residency in anesthesia at Cleveland Clinic Foundation. His fellowship in pediatric anesthesia was at Children’s Hospital Boston, Harvard University. He is board certified in anesthesia. His special interests include pediatric cardiac anesthesia, pediatric acute pain management, ultrasound-guided regional analgesia, pediatric anesthesia simulation and research.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE

CARDIOTHORACIC SURGEONS

Ryan R. Davies, MD is a graduate of Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Davies completed residencies in general surgery and in cardiothoracic surgery at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center. Dr. Davies is completing a fellowship in pediatric and congenital cardiac surgery at Stanford University/Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital. He is board certified in surgery. His special interests include neonatal cardiac surgery, heart transplantation and mechanical circulatory support, and surgery on the thoracic aorta and aortic valve.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE

Christian Pizarro, MD is Director of Nemours Cardiac Center and Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery. He is a graduate of the University of Chile School of Medicine. Dr. Pizarro completed a residency in general surgery at Pennsylvania Hospital and a residency in cardiothoracic surgery at Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He served his fellowships in pediatric cardiothoracic surgery at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children and the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Pizarro is board certified in thoracic surgery. His special interests include surgical management of single ventricle patients, neonatal cardiac surgery, valve repair, heart transplantation, tracheal reconstruction surgery and adult congenital heart surgery.

Provides care in Wilmington, DE