

Dr. Hernando Santos Calderon, Cardiac Surgeon



Dr. Hernando Santos is the chief of cardiac surgery at Clinica Shaio in Bogota, Colombia. Dr. Santos has an impressive pedigree both professionally and personally. As first cousin to the current President of Colombia, Juan Manuel Santos Calderon, Dr. Santos rubs shoulders with Bogota's elite and is frequently featured in Colombia's 'Jet-Set' magazine.

His friendly, laid-back and low-key demeanor belies his social stature and prestigious career as lead surgeon of one the first cardiac hospitals in Colombia. "I'm not chief," he says chuckling during our first meeting, "we're all just a group of friends," he continues, gesturing to his colleagues. This friendly attitude and fatherly nature does not waver during my many visits to Clinica Shaio. Dr. Santos readily welcomed me into the operating room.

We joke a bit over my earlier confusion – there is another, well-known surgeon, Dr. Ivan Santos who I had mistaken for a family member. We also enjoy the easy camaraderie of that cardiac teams share internationally. During surgery, he remains relaxed but focused. It is here, in his operating room, that I am able to capture the images used in my very first video, setting the pattern for later interviews.



Author with fellow cardiac nurses at Shaio

[Dr. Santos operates on vice-president](#)