



Valeria González, M.D.
General Physician, Manatí Medical Center

Having been surrounded by science and healthcare all her life, it was almost instinctive for Dr. Valeria González to join the medical field. Even when she had received her first doctor's kit at age 6, she has been determined to provide medical care for patients in need. Her dedication helped González start working toward her goal earlier than her colleagues.

After graduating high school at the age of 16, González went on to complete her Bachelor of Science in biomedical sciences, Master of Science in medical sciences, and Doctor of Medicine in a span of seven years. She is an alumna of the Ponce Health Sciences University and the Autonomous University of Guadalajara. Within these seven years, she has authored several studies regarding differential gene expressions in psoriasis and in colorectal cancer. These studies have helped advance research on future cancer testing and treatment. González has also obtained several certifications, including Basic Life Support with CPR, New York State Department Infectious Disease and Barrier Control Training, and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Compliance.

After becoming a doctor at the age of 23, González now works at the Manatí Medical Center as a general physician in Manatí, Puerto Rico. As one of the most competitive hospitals in Puerto Rico, the Manatí Medical Center prides itself on having the best professionals in healthcare. The hospital currently finds itself as a leading expert in the Puerto Rican coronavirus task force. With González's extensive medical knowledge, she exemplifies what makes the Manatí Medical Center a leading institution in having the highest residency retention rate in Puerto Rico.

In the past, González has been a member of many medical organizations dedicated to student mentorship. She is currently a part of many cultural organizations in her hometown, such as the Luis Muñoz Rivera Cultural Center and the Museum of Art and Anthropology in Barranquitas, Puerto Rico. González still attends these meetings to give her professional support.

González's excellence in her work stems not just from her passion for healthcare, but from her passion for people. Her activities outside the medical field — like educational travel and community service — have strengthened her empathy for others, making her equipped to work in the medical field. González believes that being human exceeds being a doctor.

Currently, González is looking forward to receiving her full medical license to open her own practice soon. She is also a volunteer in the coronavirus vaccination efforts in Barranquitas, Puerto Rico. As González simply put it, "I feel the power to make great changes."