

Cardiologist
Anthony
Passannante Jr.
(foreground) with
his father—
and fellow
cardiologist—
Anthony
Passannante Sr.



ANTHONY PASSANNANTE JR., M.D.

This leading cardiologist is a partner with the New Brunswick Cardiology Group, which specializes in all aspects of invasive, noninvasive and interventional cardiac care. Associated with Saint Peter's University Hospital since 1983, he has been a member of the hospital's Board of Trustees and has served as president of the Medical Executive Committee. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Passannante trained at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and performed his cardiology fellowship at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey–Rutgers Medical School. He and his wife live in Cranbury and have four children.

Q: Why did you become a doctor? My dad, Anthony Passannante Sr., was a big influence. He was originally a Ph.D. chemist, developing rocket fuels for Exxon and the government. I was in second grade when he decided to go to medical school. During his cardiology fellowship and residency, I found his love for the field very inspiring. I would visit his office, walk on rounds with him and watch him interact with patients and staff. He was having so much fun that there was really nothing else I could think of doing.

Q: What are the most important technological advances you've seen in cardiac care? One was the development of diagnostic tests for early detection of heart disease, including stress testing with nuclear radiology. The second and third are our amazing ability to fix arteries through angioplasty and medications that dramatically lower cholesterol and help stabilize heart disease.

Q: Do you play sports? After rupturing my Achilles tendon during a tennis game and breaking my hand playing basketball, I've switched in the last decade to more sedate exercises. I play golf with my sons (ages 12 and 21). It's great because you're outdoors in a serene environment.