



Joseph A. Dearani, M.D.

Professor of Surgery



Joseph A. Dearani, M.D., is a consultant and serves as chair in the Division of Cardiovascular Surgery, with a joint appointment in the Division of Transplantation Surgery, both in the Department of Surgery at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Dr. Dearani holds the academic rank of professor of surgery, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, and is recognized with the distinction of a named professorship, the Sheikh Zayed Professorship in Cardiovascular Diseases Honoring George M. Gura, M.D. He joined the staff of Mayo Clinic in 1996.

Dr. Dearani earned his M.D. degree at the School of Medicine, Georgetown University. He completed an internship and residency in general surgery at Georgetown University Hospital, followed by a research fellowship in surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School. He returned to Georgetown University Hospital to complete a residency in surgery, where he also served as chief resident in general surgery. He furthered his training through a residency in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery at Mayo Clinic and a fellowship in congenital cardiac surgery and transplantation at Loma Linda University Medical

Dr. Dearani's research focuses on complex valve repair and stem cell therapy in infants, children and adults with congenital heart defects. He consistently publishes in high-impact scientific journals and holds editorial and reviewer responsibilities for several prominent publications. He is frequently invited to give presentations on his research both domestically and internationally and has authored numerous journal articles, book chapters, abstracts and other written publications.

In recognition of his work, Dr. Dearani has received many awards and honors, including the Dwight McGoon Mentorship Award, conferred by the American Association for Thoracic Surgery; the L.O.R.I. Award, conferred by the Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association; and the 2013 John A. Hawkins Top Scoring Abstract award, conferred by the Congenital Heart Surgeons' Society. He is honorary professor of Lan Zhou Medical College in Lan Zhou, China, in recognition of 10 years of humanitarian outreach and medical volunteerism.

In addition to his clinical and research activities, Dr. Dearani is active in education. He teaches courses in cardiac surgery at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine.

Dr. Dearani holds memberships with numerous professional organizations, including the Congenital Heart Surgeons' Society, American Association for Thoracic Surgery, and World Society for Pediatric and Congenital Heart Surgery. His leadership positions include serving as chair of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons and as a director of the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. Dr. Dearani also serves as medical director of Children's HeartLink, an international medical charity dedicated to the treatment and prevention of heart disease in children at risk in developing countries.