Rajesh Aggarwal MBBS MA PhD FRCS FACS

Executive Vice President, Jefferson Strategic Ventures Professor, Division of Minimally Invasive, Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health





Rajesh Aggarwal is a physician executive leader with an exceptional track record of success, in areas of education, innovation, patient safety and service quality, to transform clinical care delivery across complex academic and community health systems. His work focuses upon clinical, scientific and technological expertise with respect to healthcare innovations, encompassing digital applications and health IT platforms, virtual and augmented reality solutions, medical devices and interventional robotics, and advanced analytics. Further, he has established experience with leading venture, strategic, research and commercial partnership deals for health systems with external parties.

Dr. Aggarwal undertook his Bachelor's degree in Social and Political Sciences at the University of Cambridge, medical school at the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, University of London, and completed general surgical residency at Imperial College London.

In 2008 he was awarded a PhD degree in virtual reality technologies for surgical education at Imperial College London, under the mentorship of Professor Ara Darzi, current Director of the Institute of Global Health Innovation at Imperial College London, past Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Department of Health in the United Kingdom, and a member of the House of Lords. Whilst working at Imperial with Professor Darzi, Rajesh engaged in collaborative work with the Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design at the Royal College of Art, and Imperial College Business School, comprising redesign of the cardiac arrest trolley, and the Design out Medical Error (or the DoME project), in addition to projects with industrial partners in the fields of simulation, medical devices and robotics.

Rajesh has continued to maintain an academic and clinical practice, as a Faculty member at Imperial College London, University of Pennsylvania and McGill University. At McGill, he was instrumental in developing a strategic plan for the McGill simulation center, based upon research and innovation, and underpinned by a \$7.5 million philanthropic donation. He led the Simnovate International Summit in 2016, bringing together global luminaries to engage and debate the forward plan for health care innovation, with the proceedings published in a special issue of the British Medical Journal Simulation and Technology Enhanced Learning (BMJ STEL) in 2017.

His current role in strategic ventures and partnerships at Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health, utilizes the 14-hospital health system as a living laboratory, to engage and partner with external companies, to transform health care in its broadest sense. The underlying process is to embed, co-develop and translate novel tools, technologies and platforms, into clinical, academic, reputational and revenue-based impact at Jefferson, which may then be translated to other sites and settings, across the US and beyond.

Dr. Aggarwal is a front-line surgeon in active clinical practice, with a distributed and inclusive leadership style, driven by creativity and vision, to collaborate across disciplines and structures, and a commitment to significant, shared and sustained impact.