



## SAM ATALLAH, MD

**ABOUT THE DOCTOR:** Dr. Atallah is among the best known colorectal surgeons in the world. He is Professor of Surgery at UCF College of Medicine and on January 1st, 2019, will have completed two consecutive terms as Chairman of the Department of Colorectal Surgery at Florida Hospital (AdventHealth). Dr. Atallah has other roles as Director of Research and Clinical Trials at The Digestive And Liver Center of Florida, Director of The Division of Colorectal Surgery at The Endo-Surgical Center of Florida, and Director of Colorectal Surgery at Oviedo Medical Center. When asked about his roles, he says, "I may wear a few different hats, but my most gratifying job is taking care of patients. Truthfully, this is the best part about being a doctor, having the privilege to help those in need!" **INNOVATIONS:** A pioneer in surgery, Dr. Atallah performed the world's first TAMIS operation (a minimally invasive cancer treatment) in Winter Park on June 30, 2009. This created a new approach to treating rectal cancers and polyps, that is now being practiced in more than 50 countries worldwide. Dr. Atallah is also a pioneer of robotic transanal surgery, and was the first in the world to perform this technique. He is one of the leaders in advanced technology for rectal cancer

surgery and has developed the technique of stereotactic navigation for transanal total mesorectal excision (taTME, which is essentially an advanced type of radical rectal cancer operation). This has proven to be an important step forward in the evolution of computer-assisted 'Digital Surgery.' Complex treatment of rectal cancer and surgical management of this disease through the new techniques of TAMIS and taTME represent Dr. Atallah's principal interests in colorectal surgery, and his textbook on this will be published in early 2019 by Springer Nature. He is also actively involved in the design and assessment of feasibility of next generation robotic systems that will be smaller, sleeker, and able to work in places and spaces never before imagined. Dr. Atallah has become internationally recognized for his pioneering work in rectal cancer surgery and has given several invited lectureships worldwide, and has served as part of an elite faculty team for the Inaugural United States taTME Course held at The Center For The Future of Surgery—at the University of California, San Diego. Since this time, he has trained hundreds of surgeons nationally and internationally. He has also performed live surgery internationally and lectured globally—traveling to six continents in 2017-18.

**TOP DOCTORS:** Sam Atallah, MD

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