Master Clinician/Teacher Award

Joseph K. Salama, MD

Dr. Joseph K. Salama is an associate professor with tenure and Residency Program Director in the Department of Radiation Oncology at Duke University and Chief of the Radiation Oncology Service at the Durham VA Medical Center. He is a native of Houston, TX, completed his undergraduate education at Cornell University and was awarded his MD from Baylor College of Medicine in 2001. In 2006, Dr. Salama completed his residency and chief residency in the Department of Radiation and Cellular Oncology at the University of Chicago. Subsequently, he joined the University of Chicago faculty developing expertise treating patients with upper aerodigestive cancers as well as patients with limited metastases. Dr. Salama was recruited to Duke in 2010 to run the DVAMC Radiation Oncology Program. He continues to be actively involved in international studies using novel radiation therapy treatments to improve outcomes for cancer patients.

Dr. Salama has been enthusiastically engaged in medical education since his residency, and during his career has mentored dozens of medical students, resident physicians, fellows, masters and PhD candidates, and post-docs. He was awarded departmental teacher of the year awards in 2010 at the University of Chicago, and at Duke in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2017.

“He is thoughtful in his research and it is difficult not to share his enthusiasm for advancing medicine. He is always actively engaged and sparks our enthusiasm for inquiry as trainees.”

“Dr. Salama combines affability and approachability with a tremendous wealth of knowledge that he is eager to share with patients, residents, and fellow colleagues.”

“Dr. Salama makes a consistent effort to teach with each and every patient encounter.”