

Leonard Palumbo, Jr., MD Faculty Achievement Award

Kevin Harrison, MD

Dr. Kevin Harrison has been part of the transformation of interventional cardiology at Duke over the last three decades, working with extraordinary people to help develop less invasive, effective treatment for patients with ischemic, congenital, and valvular heart disease.

His enthusiasm for medicine began as an undergraduate at Duke, in the engineering school, during the days of cardiac ultrasound development. He is grateful for those days, and also for the medical education at NYU and The Johns Hopkins Hospital, which provided the framework for lifelong learning and investigation, an appreciation for the responsibility involved in patient care, and provided mentoring for his love of teaching.

Upon returning to Duke in 1988, Dr. Harrison began work focused on catheterization-based treatment for patients with valvular heart disease. Over these three decades, he has helped develop transformational techniques; allowing predictable revascularization for patients with coronary artery disease, allowing closure of atrial septal defects for patients with congenital heart disease, and allowing transcatheter valve replacement for patients with valvular heart disease.

Lastly, Dr. Harrison is perhaps most proud of the development of Duke Structural Heart Disease Fellowship program. This program annually graduates a unique physician expert in the interventional treatment of patients with structural heart disease, each graduate having gone on to lead and develop their own academic structural heart disease program.



"He has dedicated his time and skill to provide both outstanding quality care as well as compassionate care to individuals who have entrusted their treatment to this great medical center."

"Dr. Harrison epitomizes the compassionate physician—confident in his work, reassuring to patients, but humbly pursuing new knowledge while practicing his trade."