

Head & Neck Center Expert



Rima A. DeFatta, M.D.

Dr. Rima DeFatta is board certified in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and is fellowship trained in Laryngology. She graduated from the University of Pittsburgh and went on to medical school at Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia. She completed her Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery residency at Albany Medical College and her Laryngology fellowship with Dr. Robert Sataloff at The American Institute for Voice and Ear Research in Philadelphia. She specializes in the management of airway and swallowing disorders, and she is especially passionate about providing expert voice care to both professional and non-professional voice users.

Dr. DeFatta is affiliated with the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at Drexel University School of Medicine as an assistant professor. She serves on the editorial review board of the *ENT Journal* and as guest reviewer for the *Journal of Voice*. She is an active member of the Otolaryngology Advisory Committee to the American College of Surgeons and supports the ENT Political Action Committee where she has lobbied numerous times on Capital Hill.

Dr. DeFatta is committed to providing care and education to both underserved adults and children. She has organized local events for World Voice Day and National Oral Cancer Screening Day. She volunteered in the Temple CARES free medical clinic and is a founding member of Temple Health Policy Organization, which serves as a valuable educational resource for medical students and the Philadelphia community.

Recent Publications

- Sataloff RT, Hawkshaw M, DeFatta RA, Sataloff J, Eller R. Atlas of Laryngoscopy. Third Edition. San Diego, California: Plural Publishing. 2011 (in press).
- DeFatta RA, Sataloff RT. The Value of Warm-up and Cool-down Exercises. In Press: *Journal of Singing*.
- DeFatta RA, Chowdhury FR, Sataloff RT. Complications of Laryngoplasty Using Calcium Hydroxylapatite. In press: *Journal of Voice*.
- Abshier CA, DeFatta RA, Sataloff RT. Papilloma: A Diagnostic Near Miss. In press: *ENT Journal*.
- Abraham RF, Shapshay SM, Galati L. Botox Assisted Endoscopic Repair of Traumatic Vocal Fold Avulsion. *Ear Nose Throat Journal*. 2010;89(9):452-8.
- Abraham (DeFatta) RF, DeFatta RJ, Williams EF. Thread Lift for Facial Rejuvenation: Assessment of Long Term Results. *Archives of Facial Plastic Surgery*. 2009;11(3):178-183.

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Robert J. DeFatta, M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Robert DeFatta is double board certified in Facial Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. A native of Louisiana, he attended college at Louisiana State University and later earned both a Doctor of Philosophy and a Doctor of Medicine from Louisiana State University Health Science Center. He completed his Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery residency at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Texas. After finishing his fellowship in Facial Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery in Albany, New York, he continued as an assistant clinical professor at the Albany Medical College.

He specializes in completely endoscopic approaches to the skull base and brain stem, complex facial trauma, advanced oncologic resection and reconstruction, pediatric craniofacial reconstruction, and rejuvenation of the aging face.

Dr. DeFatta is a consummate innovator and uses only the latest techniques to treat his patients. He is one of only a few physicians in the United States to use the da Vinci® robot and intraoperative CT and MRI to achieve the best outcomes for the most challenging lesions of the head and neck.

His top priority is to restore a patient's appearance and function and allow them to feel whole again. His experience in aesthetically reconstructing large head and neck defects has honed his skills for the delicate cosmetic surgery of the face and neck. He has extensive experience in performing rejuvenating and aesthetic procedures to correct imperfections that can compromise a patient's self-confidence.

Selected Publications

BOOK CHAPTERS

- DeFatta RJ. "Decision Process in Choosing Costal Cartilage for Use in Revision Rhinoplasty." In: *Advanced Rhinoplasty: Art, Science, and New Clinical Techniques*. New York, New York: Springer (In press).
- DeFatta RJ and Ducic Y. "Eyelid Reconstruction." In: *Head and Neck Reconstruction*. Hauppauge, New York: NOVA (In preparation).
- DeFatta RJ and Williams EF. "Lip Reconstruction." In: *Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Third Edition*. New York, New York: Thieme Medical Publishers; 2009.
- Zhou CO, DeFatta RJ, Ducic Y. "Current Therapies and Future Treatment Modalities for Oral Cavity Cancer." In: *Progress in Oral Cancer Research*. Hauppauge, New York: NOVA; 2007.
- DeFatta RJ, Truelson J. "Controversies in Salivary Gland Diseases." In: *Bailey's Head and Neck Surgery - Otolaryngology, Fourth Edition*. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Lippincott Williams & Williams; 2006.

MOST RECENT PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

- Midface lifting: current standards. DeFatta RJ, Williams EF. *Facial Plastic Surgery*. 2011; 27(1):77-85.
- Pulsed-dye laser for treating ecchymoses after facial cosmetic procedures. DeFatta RJ, Krishna S, Williams EF. *Archives of Facial Plastic Surgery*. 2009; 11(2):99-103.
- Free tissue transfer reconstruction of head and neck at a Veterans Affairs hospital. Myers LL, Sumer BD, DeFatta RJ, Minhajuddin A. *Head and Neck*. 2008; 30(8):1007-1011.

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