James C. Hunter, MD

Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer
Atrium Health

As Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at Atrium Health, Dr. Hunter serves as the thought leader and champion for the implementation of system-wide patient quality and safety initiatives. A member of the Executive Council, he has spearheaded numerous system-wide initiatives through the Atrium Health Quality Division.

Under his leadership and conviction to aspire to accomplish what was previously considered impossible in healthcare, Atrium Health has been a top performer in the Hospital Engagement Network (HEN) and the Healthcare Innovation and Improvement Network (HIIN) of the federal Partnership for Patients to reduce harm, including preventable injuries and complications from healthcare acquired infections. He also played a role in another national quality initiative that paved the way for Atrium Health to become one of only two hospital systems in the United States invited to participate on an American Medical Association task force promoting greater physician involvement in Patient Safety Organizations (PSOs). Dr. Hunter represented Atrium Health at the White House for the kick-off of a national focus on Antibiotic Stewardship. The program developed at Atrium Health has been nationally recognized and highlighted by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Atrium Health’s work on avoidable readmissions and Clinical Optimization have resulted in numerous national presentations and articles. Dr. Hunter initially joined the organization in 2008 as a Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for Carolinas Medical Center and Carolinas Rehabilitation.

Dr. Hunter obtained his undergraduate degree in biochemistry and his medical degree from the University of Virginia and his master’s in business administration degree from Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri.