



Michael E. Kilpatrick, M.D. **Director of Strategic Communications** **for the Military Health System**



Michael E. Kilpatrick, M.D., is the Director of Strategic Communications for the Military Health System (MHS) in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs.

He has led and managed the programs affecting deployment health for over a decade and has taken the lead on major communication efforts including depleted uranium, embedded fragments and the overall continuum of care throughout the Military Health System. Dr. Kilpatrick develops and directs an aggressive strategic communication plan to increase public awareness of the accomplishments and direction of the MHS in health care delivery, medical research, and medical education and training.

He is responsible for developing key messages regarding health issues in the MHS and communicating them to our Service members and families, military leaders, care providers and partnering health organizations. Dr. Kilpatrick brings a unique expertise in being able to respond to the concerns of Service members and their families. His extensive experience in clinical care, research and medical leadership optimizes the reach and effectiveness of his communication team efforts.

Dr. Kilpatrick earned his bachelors degree from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and his Medical Degree from the University of New Mexico, School of Medicine in 1969. He completed his Internal Medicine residency in 1972 and an Infectious Disease fellowship in 1974 at the University of California, Irvine. He has co-authored more than 70 peer-reviewed publications on tropical medicine and infectious diseases.

He served in the U.S. Navy from 1974 to 1999. His first assignment was as a staff physician in the Infectious Disease division at the Naval Regional Medical Center in San Diego. He then served five tours with the Medical Research and Development Command including assignments in Egypt and Peru, studying infectious diseases in areas of the world where we may need to send our personnel. He was executive officer of the Naval Hospital in Orlando, Florida, and commanded the Naval Hospital in Millington, Tennessee. Dr. Kilpatrick completed his Navy career as the senior medical advisor to the Special Assistant for Gulf War Illnesses. He was selected to the Senior Executive Service in 2000.

Dr. Kilpatrick's military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, two Legion of Merit awards, three Meritorious Service medals and the Peruvian Navy Cross.