



Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center

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Director,

The Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center

CAPT Kevin Russell graduated from University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio Medical School in 1990; after a family practice internship he was accepted into the Navy Undersea Medicine program. He was stationed at the Experimental Diving Unit in Panama City, Fla. where he worked in diving medicine research from 1991 to 1995.

After a Preventive Medicine Residency with a master's in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, he was transferred to Lima, Peru where he became head of the Virology Laboratory. His portfolio included work in eight South American countries in arbovirus, HIV, and respiratory surveillance, and included prospective dengue transmission studies in the Amazon basin and Venezuela.

He returned to the U.S. in 2001 to become the head of the Respiratory Disease Laboratory at the Naval Health Research Center in San Diego, Calif. His work in febrile respiratory illness surveillance in recruits of all services was expanded to shipboard populations, Mexican border populations, and support for outbreaks and deployed settings. He also focused on validation and integration of new and emerging advanced diagnostic capabilities, utilizing the archives of specimens maintained at the laboratory. In 2006, CAPT Russell became the principal investigator for the Navy site in the FDA Phase 3 adenovirus vaccines trial and subsequently supported the Phase 4 post-marketing trial of the FDA-approved ACAM2000 smallpox vaccine.

In July of 2008, CAPT Russell assumed the responsibilities of Director of the Department of Defense Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (DoD-GEIS) and Deputy Director of the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center (AFHSC). He was tasked with the responsibility of synergizing the GEIS network with the other capabilities of Health Surveillance at the AFHSC. He has focused on enhanced standardization, greater affiliations with world militaries, more open lines of communication and information sharing with Geographic Combatant Commands, continuing to introduce scientific rigor into the network, and finding ways to more effectively leverage DoD Security assets in biosurveillance with the responsibilities and health situational awareness products of the AFHSC .

In June of 2011, CAPT Russell became the Director of the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center. He is excited by the challenge of further leveraging the many assets of the AFHSC for the health of our men and women in uniform, as well as global public health. CAPT Russell has over 90 peer-reviewed publications of his work and is a fellow of the Infectious Disease Society of America. Personal awards include the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Navy Commendation Medal.