



Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center

Robert A. Welch, III

*Executive Officer/Chief of Staff,
Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center*

Mr. Welch possesses extensive experience in medical operational readiness, medical operational planning, medical readiness training and medical readiness policy formulation.

Prior to joining the AFHSC in the spring of 2008, Mr. Welch served for two years as the project lead for the Joint Medical Logistics Readiness Tool at the Joint Medical Logistics Functional Development Center at Fort Detrick, Md. He served two years as the deputy technical manager for Medical Situational Awareness in the Theater Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command at Fort Detrick. He also worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs with the primary responsibility to coordinate all aspects of the Multi-Service Theater Medical Information Program test and evaluation process.

Mr. Welch holds a master's in information and telecommunications systems from John Hopkins University and completed the Information System Security Professional Certification Program at Georgetown University. He earned a master's in health care administration from Central Michigan University and bachelor's in behavioral sciences from the National University.

In 2001, Mr. Welch retired as a Lt. Cmdr. in the U.S. Navy. While serving, he worked as a senior Navy medical operations officer at the U.S. European Command in Germany. He was responsible for coordinating medical support for Joint Task Forces Noble Anvil and Shining Hope in support of NATO Kosovo Operation Allied Force and Allied Harbor. He also developed medical support plans for over 36,000 deployed U.S. troops and emergency care for over 700,000 refugees.

He served as deputy director for Theater and Telemedicine Systems and head of Readiness Programs for the Naval Medical Information Management Center in Bethesda, M.D. In that role, he managed groundbreaking efforts to demonstrate Electronic Medical Record capabilities, advance portable medical diagnostic systems, Tele-Radiology, web-based tracking and early SMART CARD technologies in a variety of naval operational settings.

His military awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (X3), Meritorious Unit Commendation (X3), Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon (X2), Fleet Marine Force Ribbon, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (X2), National Defense Service Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi), Joint Meritorious Service Medal and Joint Service Achievement Medal (X3).