



Department of Veterans Affairs

Senior Executive Biography

Miguel H. LaPuz, MD, MBA

Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Health

Veterans Health Administration

Miguel H. LaPuz, M.D., is the Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Health. During his current acting role, Dr. LaPuz was appointed to lead the VA's efforts to address access and community care in the newly formed position of Assistant Under Secretary for Health (AUSH) for Integrated Veteran Care (IVC), effective May 22, 2022.

Prior to his current acting role and appointment as AUSH for IVC, Dr. LaPuz served as VISN 8 Director, where he oversaw healthcare delivery through a system of eight hospitals (two of which are integrated) and nearly 60 primary care and specialty outpatient clinics; eight nursing homes; and five domiciliaries. Serving a population of more than 1.5 million Veterans.



A highly respected leader with a wide breadth of experience, Dr. LaPuz served as the Medical Center Director of the Salem VA Medical Center (VAMC), Salem, Va., from 2011 to 2015. He was also the Chief of Staff at the Salisbury VAMC, in Salisbury, N.C from 2009 to 2011; in 2010, he also served there as the VAMC's interim Director. From 2005 to 2009, he was the Chief of Staff at the Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center, Columbus, OH, and from 2000 to 2005, he served as Chief of Medicine Service at the Dayton VAMC in Dayton, OH.

A native of the Philippines, Dr. LaPuz received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology (Pre-Med focus) in 1978 from the University of the Philippines, Quezon City, R.P., and his medical degree in 1982 from the University of the Philippines College of Medicine in Manila. In 2000, he also earned a Master of Business Administration from Wright State University in Dayton.

Specializing in Nephrology, Dr. LaPuz did his residency in Internal Medicine at The Brooklyn Hospital Center, Brooklyn, N.Y., and completed a Fellowship in Nephrology at Long Island College Hospital, also in Brooklyn. He also completed a Fellowship in Molecular Biology Research at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. Named Teacher of the Year at Wright State University's School of Medicine in 1998, Dr. LaPuz holds professional certifications by the American Board of Internal Medicine and the Healthcare Leadership Institute.

CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

2022 – Present	Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Health
2022 – Present	Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Integrated Veteran Care
2016 – 2022	Director, Veterans Integrated Service Network 8, VA, St. Petersburg, FL
2017 – 2018	Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Health, VA, Washington DC
2011 – 2015	Medical Center Director, Salem VA Medical Center, Salem, VA
2010	Interim Director, Salem VA Medical Center, Salem, VA
2009 – 2011	Chief of Staff, Salem VA Medical Center, Salem, VA

EDUCATION:

2000	Masters of Business Administration, Wright State University, Dayton, OH
1982	Doctor of Medicine, University of the Philippines College of Medicine, Manila, R.P.
1978	Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, University of the Philippines, Quezon City, R.P.