



Department of Veterans Affairs

Senior Executive Biography

Joel Scholten, MD

Executive Director, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Veterans Health Administration

As Executive Director, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R), Dr. Scholten provides policy and planning guidance on rehabilitation issues for the Veterans Health Administration. Specialized programs within PM&R include Polytrauma System of Care, Amputation System of Care, and Drivers Rehabilitation.

Before assuming this position, he served as the Director of Special Projects for PM&R National Program Office. Dr. Scholten was instrumental in developing and implementing the Polytrauma System of Care, particularly in outpatient Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)/Polytrauma care. He is a member of the Clinical Resource Advisory Board, the Physician Advocacy Committee, and the national Committee for the Rehabilitation and Extended Care Integrated Clinical Community. Dr. Scholten also serves as the Associated Chief of Staff for Rehab Services at the Washington, DC VA Medical Center and maintains an active clinical practice. Dr. Scholten has authored numerous publications and is a well-known presenter on various rehabilitation topics including TBI and Polytrauma.



CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

2016 -- Present	Executive Director, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, VHA
2009 – Present	Associate Chief of Staff, Rehab Services, Washington DC VAMC
2009 – 2016	Special Projects Director, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, VHA
2005 – 2008	Polytrauma Network Site Director, James Haley VA Hospital, Tampa, FL
1998 – 2008	Medical Director, Brain Injury Programs, James Haley VA Hospital, Tampa, FL

EDUCATION:

1997 Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency, Eastern Virginia Graduate School of Medicine, Norfolk, Virginia
1993 Medical Doctor, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD
1989 Bachelor of Science, Chemistry, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD