

Kenneth W. Kizer, MD, MPH



Chief Healthcare Transformation Officer and Senior Executive Vice President, Atlas Research, Inc.

Dr. Kenneth W. Kizer is a highly experienced physician executive and internationally respected health care leader who has the rare distinction of having been elected to both the National Academy of Medicine and the National Academy of Public Administration.

He currently serves as the Chief Healthcare Transformation Officer and Senior Executive Vice President for Atlas Research, Inc., a Washington, DC-based healthcare consulting company specializing in supporting government agencies involved in health-related matters. He co-chairs the National Healthcare Quality Task Force.

Dr. Kizer's diverse professional experience includes senior positions in the public and private sectors, academia and philanthropy. His previous positions include serving as the founding President and CEO of the National Quality Forum, a Washington, DC-based quality improvement and consensus standards setting body that has been called the nation's premier health care quality improvement organization; Chairman, CEO and President of Medsphere Systems Corporation, a leading commercial provider of subscription-based health information technology; Under Secretary for Health in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and chief executive officer of the nation's largest healthcare system, in which capacity he engineered the internationally acclaimed transformation of the Veterans Healthcare System in the late 1990s; Director of the California Department of Health Services; and Director of the California Emergency Medical Services Authority, where he was the architect of the state's EMS and trauma care systems in the early 1980s. During his record tenure as California's top health official he oversaw the state's response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, pioneered Medicaid managed care, implemented California's famed Tobacco Control Program and the '5-a-Day' for Better Nutrition Program (that was later adopted for national implementation), restructured many of the state's public health programs, launched initiatives to improve the quality of nursing homes and oversaw a dramatically enlarged toxic substances control program and the genesis of the Department of Toxic Substances Control. Immediately prior to joining Atlas Research, he was the founding Director, Institute for Population Health Improvement, and a Distinguished Professor at the University of California Davis.

He has served on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and as Chairman of The California Wellness Foundation, the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health promotion and population health improvement, as well as on the governing boards of a number of managed care and health IT companies, foundations, professional associations and non-profit organizations. He has been an advisor to numerous foreign countries on health-related matters.

Dr. Kizer is an honors graduate of Stanford University and the UCLA Schools of Medicine and Public Health, the recipient of two honorary doctorates, and a fellow or distinguished fellow of 12 professional societies. He is board certified in six medical specialties and/or subspecialties, and has authored over 500 original articles, book chapters and other reports in the professional literature. He is a Fellow National of the international Explorer's Club, a founding member and architect of the international Wilderness Medical Society, a former Navy diving medical officer, and a recognized expert on aquatic sports and wilderness medicine.

His accomplishments have been recognized with dozens of awards, and he has been selected as one of the '100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare' by *Modern Healthcare* magazine on several occasions. His work has been featured in *Time*, *Business Week*, *Fortune*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times* and numerous other magazines, newspapers and national television shows.