



Department of Veterans Affairs

Senior Executive Biography

Erica M. Scavella, M.D., FACP, FACHE

Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Clinical Services Veterans Health Administration



Erica M. Scavella, M.D., FACP, FACHE serves as the Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Clinical Services and the Chief Medical Officer at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) overseeing the medical care provided to over 9 million enrolled Veterans annually at over 1,700 sites of care. The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is the nation's largest integrated healthcare system. Dr. Scavella defines VA's clinical strategy and policy in order to assure the provision of an enterprise, patient-driven, evidence-based standard of care and the reduction of unintended outcomes; supports and drives data-driven, outcome-oriented, and resource-efficient oversight and operational improvement; and enables the professional development of clinicians and leaders in order to optimize the operational strength of the health system and delivery of world class care to all Veterans. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Scavella served as VA's Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Oversight, Risk and Ethics, executing the duties of the Chief Health Risk Officer. In this role, Dr. Scavella provided executive leadership for five aligned National Program Offices – the Office of Integrity and Compliance, the Office of Internal Audit, the National Center for Ethics in Health Care, the Office of Research Oversight, and the Office of the Medical Inspector – and was responsible for Enterprise Risk Management and healthcare-related oversight and accountability. Dr. Scavella's first appointment to the Senior Executive Service was as The Medical Inspector, conducting and overseeing over 250 clinical investigations where she led her team to implement impactful clinical care improvements across the VA.

Dr. Scavella earned a BA in Biology from Rutgers University and an M.D. from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers University (formerly the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey). She completed a residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Maryland Medical System and is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. She was elected Fellow of the American College of Physicians (ACP) in 2005 and Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) in 2012. She has participated in multiple healthcare leadership development programs, including Leadership VA (LVA 2009), Health Care Leadership Development Program (2012), and most recently, the Harvard Kennedy School Senior Executive Fellows Program (2017). Additionally, Dr. Scavella serves on several interagency task forces and initiatives, as a Board Member for the Office of Diversity and Success in the Sciences (ODASIS) at Rutgers University, is engaged with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) on expanding and lengthening the pipeline for diversity in U.S. medicine and serves on the Board of Directors for the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) and the Council of the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME).

CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

2022 – Pres Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Clinical Services, VHA
2021 – 2022 Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Oversight, Risk and Ethics, VHA
2018 – 2021 The Medical Inspector, Office of the Medical Inspector, VHA
2017 – 2018 Interim Medical Inspector, Office of the Medical Inspector, VHA
2010 – 2017 Senior Medical Investigator, Office of the Medical Inspector, VHA
2008 – 2010 Physician Coordinator, Center for Performance, VA Maryland Healthcare System
2005 – 2011 Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Maryland School of Medicine
2004 – 2010 Medical Director, Community-Based Outpatient Clinic, VA Maryland Healthcare System
1999 – 2004 Staff Physician, VA Maryland Healthcare System