



## **Kenneth W. Kizer, MD, MPH**

Dr. Kenneth W. Kizer is the founding Director of the Institute for Population Health Improvement (IPHI) and a Distinguished Professor at the University of California Davis. He is an internationally respected health care leader and change agent whose diverse professional experience includes senior executive positions in the public and private sectors, academia and philanthropy. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and the National Academy of Public Administration.

Dr. Kizer's previous positions include: founding President and CEO, 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, Medsphere Systems Corporation, a leading commercial provider of subscription-based health information technology; Under Secretary for Health, 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, California Department of Health Services; and Director, 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 orchestrated the state's response to the then new HIV/AIDS epidemic, pioneered Medicaid managed care, implemented California's famed Tobacco Control Program and the '5-a-Day for Better Health' nutrition program, 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.

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 matters.

Dr. Kizer is an honors graduate of Stanford University and UCLA, 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. 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*, *BusinessWeek*, *Fortune*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times* and numerous other magazines, newspapers and national television shows.