

Joel Kupersmith, MD

Professor Emeritus of Medicine, Georgetown University Medical Center

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joel_Kupersmith



In his varied and accomplished career, Dr. Joel Kupersmith. has been a cardiologist, scientist, medical school dean, CEO of a practice plan and leader of the extensive and far-ranging VA medical research program. He has written and lectured widely on a variety of health policy, veterans and research issues. He is now Professor Emeritus of Medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center and for several years was the Director, Georgetown University Veterans Initiatives as well as a Professor of Medicine.

Dr. Kupersmith has over 180 publications, putting him in the top 5% of medical researchers in citations, and 4 books, His most recent publications are on health policy issues including heart disease, comparative effectiveness research, genomics, health systems issues, veterans' issues and privacy.

Dr. Kupersmith as a graduate of New York Medical College where he also did his internal medicine residency. Following that his cardiology fellowship was at Beth Israel/Harvard Medical School. Dr. Kupersmith was a professor and Director of Clinical Pharmacology at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine; Chief of Cardiology at the University of Louisville; Chair of Michigan State University's Department of Medicine; and Dean of Texas Tech University's School of Medicine and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, the University's VP for clinical affairs and CEO of the faculty practice. Dr. Kupersmith was subsequently a scholar-in-residence at both the Institute of Medicine (now the National Academy of Medicine) and the Association of American Medical Colleges. Among his accomplishments in these positions were research advances in heart disease, the creation of numerous programs and departments, being a major participant in starting a new medical school, advances in medical education and initial work which led to the formation of the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

Dr. Kupersmith was then the Chief Research and Development Officer of the Veterans Health Administration, where he led VA's medical research program from 2005-2013, the longest tenure ever. Dr. Kupersmith's transformational leadership in this position and his accomplishments had influence well beyond the VA. His major initiative was the Million Veteran [Program](#), which is now the world's largest systems genomic database and part of the President's Precision Medicine Initiative. This initiative has received widespread praise as a major government medical and IT accomplishment. Other accomplishments included introducing innovative, ways of doing health services and clinical research; initiating many pioneering research projects especially for returning veterans; initiating a VA Central Institutional Review Board; creating a sophisticated Communications Section; establishing new close collaborative efforts with the Department of Defense, NIH and others within and outside

of government; and, substantial improvements in VA's research administration and infrastructure. In addition, a component of the Office of Research and Development won a 2010 Presidential Baldrige Award for quality and performance, only the second government entity ever to do so.

Dr. Kupersmith's awards include a Medal of Honor and Alumni Association Distinguished Achievement Award from NYMC and an Affirmative Action Award from the University of Louisville. He was elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation and has been listed in Who's Who in America and several others. He has also been on many federal councils and national committees including the Governing Council of the AMA Medical School Section; Federal Coordinating Council for Comparative Effectiveness Research; NIH Council of the National Center for the Advancement of Translational Science; National Science and Technology Council Committee on Homeland and National Security; and the Council of Science of the White House.

Among Dr. Kupersmith's accomplishments at Georgetown are the The Veterans Creed, a statement of principles for veterans which has been adopted by 17 major Veteran Service Organizations; 3 extensive workshops related to veterans, the All-Volunteer Force and employment for veterans and which included leadership individuals from government, veterans organizations, academia and the private sector; plan and help lead an anthropology course on veterans for students entitled "Veterans: Hero, Victim, Threat" (Anthropology 264); and lectures to medical students on the veterans' health care system. a VA funded research project examining health systems issues related to opioid prescriptions for veterans in VA and MedStar; helped plan and participate in a National Academy of Engineering workshop on Remote Patient Monitoring; a medical student elective on health care policy and ethics; a Veteran's Data Briefing which is a monthly newsletter which is distributed to a large mailing list and on social media;