

COL (Ret) Russ Kotwal, MD, MPH, spent nearly 30 years in the military and more than 15 years in operational assignments with the 25th Infantry Division, 75th Ranger Regiment, and U.S Army Special Operations Command. He deployed to combat 12 times with the Rangers -- nine times to Afghanistan and three to Iraq. He conducted hundreds of combat ground and air missions as the senior medical provider and his awards include five Bronze Star medals, two Joint Service Commendation medals for Valor, two combat jump stars, and many others. Dr. Kotwal is also a master parachutist, master flight surgeon, and Ranger qualified. He is credited with numerous novel training and technology initiatives, professional publications, and national and international presentations related primarily to prehospital medicine on the battlefield. Dr. Kotwal is an adjunct professor for both the Texas A&M University Health Science Center and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. He has been an advisor for the Defense Health Agency's Joint Trauma System and Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care, as well as the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, a Hero of Military Medicine award recipient, a Distinguished Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment, a Distinguished Alumnus of the Uniformed Services University, and an inductee into the US Army Ranger Hall of Fame. Dr. Kotwal currently works on strategic projects for the Joint Trauma System, and he is also the current president of the Special Operations Medical Association.