

Donald Howard Jenkins, Col (Ret), MD, FACS, DMCC

Dr. Jenkins is currently the Chief of Trauma for the Mayo Clinic. Prior to his retiring from the Air Force as a Colonel, he was the founding Director of the Joint Theater Trauma System (JTTS). The JTTS was developed by the Department of Defense to improve the care provided to our wounded service men and women in Iraq and Afghanistan and encompasses all aspects of care provided to U.S. casualties in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. This system is now widely acknowledged as one of the most important innovations in trauma care to have resulted from the present conflicts and Dr. Jenkins was one of its chief architects. Previously, Dr. Jenkins was the Chair of General Surgery and Chief of Trauma Services at Wilford Hall Medical Center (WHMC), the Air Force's flagship medical facility. He was also the Mobile Field Surgical Team (MFST) and Small Portable Expeditionary Aeromedical Rapid Response (SPEAR) Team Pilot Unit Leader for the Air Force Surgeon General, responsible to the Surgeon General for advice on all surgery and trauma-related issues for these first-strike deployable teams.

Dr. Jenkins academic achievements include a BS in Biochemistry from the University of Scranton in Scranton, PA (1984); an MD from Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) in Bethesda, MD (1988); surgical specialty training at WHMC at Lackland Air Force Base, TX (1988-1996); a trauma fellowship at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA (1996-1998); and the Diploma in the Medical Care of Catastrophes from the Apothecaries of London and USU.

Dr. Jenkins has been honored with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff award as the Physician of the Year in the U. S. Air Force, the Physician of the Year Award at Wilford Hall Medical Center, the Bronze Star medal, and the Paul Myers Physician of the Year Award presented by the Air Force Association. He is currently the past-president of the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Vice-Chair of National Trauma Institute based in San Antonio, TX, and a Past President of the Air Force Society of Clinical Surgeons. He has published over 50 peer-reviewed articles and 9 book chapters. He has also delivered over a hundred presentations on topics related to trauma and injury.