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**Epidemiologic Study on the Health of Veterans Who Served at Fort  
McClellan, 1979-1999**

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**Speaker Biosketches  
March 2, 2026**

**Patricia R. Hastings, D.O., M.P.H., R.N., FACEP**

Dr. Patricia R. Hastings is Chief Consultant, Health Outcomes Military Exposures. She is an Emergency Physician and has completed a Disaster Medicine Fellowship with an emphasis in Public Health. She retired from the Army after 33 years of service at the rank of Colonel. Dr. Hastings is board certified in Emergency Medicine and has had a long and diverse career as a health provider. She entered the Army after medical school at the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Science in Des Moines, Iowa. She also worked as a paramedic and R.N. after graduating from nursing school. In her last military assignment, Dr. Hastings served as the Medical Director, Operations, Office of the Joint Staff Surgeon, Office of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. At her retirement, Dr. Hastings was awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal for many accomplishments and contributions to military medicine in the areas of trauma, medical ethics and global health policy issues including responses to Ebola, Zika, MERS-CoV and bioterrorism preparedness/response.

**Michele A. Soltis, M.D., M.P.H., FACPM**

Dr. Michele A. Soltis serves as the Deputy Chief Consultant for the Health Outcomes Military Exposures Program. She retired from the United States Army in September 2024, at the rank of Colonel following 22 years of service. As an Army preventive medicine physician, she served as the Chief Consultant to the Army Surgeon General, Director of the Public Health Directorate in the Office of The Army Surgeon General, and Director of the Public Health/General Preventive Medicine Residency Program at Madigan Army Medical Center. She also served as a Preventive Medicine Officer with the 10th Mountain Division in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Dr. Soltis currently serves as a Director for Public Health/General Preventive Medicine on the American Board of Preventive Medicine's Board of Directors; as an item writer for the Public Health/General Preventive Medicine and Health Care Administration, Leadership, and Management certification examinations; and as the Chairperson of the Education Committee for the American College of Preventive Medicine. Dr. Soltis earned her Doctor of Medicine degree from the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine and her Master of Public Health degree from the University of Washington School of Public Health. She is currently certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine in both Public Health/General Preventive Medicine and Health Care Administration, Leadership, and Management.

**Aaron Schneiderman, Ph.D., M.P.H., R.N.**

Dr. Aaron Schneiderman serves as Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs Epidemiology Program. Dr. Schneiderman has nearly three decades of experience in the areas of occupational

and environmental safety and health research. His work with VA's War Related Illness and Injury Study Center in Washington, D.C. included both clinical work and research with Veterans in the areas of health risk communication, perception of environmental exposures, and physical and psychological health concerns. Dr. Schneiderman earned his Master of Public Health and Doctor of Philosophy from the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health. He earned a Bachelor of Science in nursing with honors from the University of Maryland at Baltimore School of Nursing.