

Biography  
COL (Ret) Elspeth Cameron Ritchie, MD, MPH

Dr Ritchie is the Chief Clinical Officer, Department of Mental Health, for the District of Columbia. She retired from the Army in 2010, after holding numerous leadership positions within Army Medicine, to include the Psychiatry Consultant. She trained at Harvard, George Washington, Walter Reed, and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and has completed fellowships in both forensic and preventive and disaster psychiatry. She is a Professor of Psychiatry at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. An internationally recognized expert, she brings a unique public health approach to the management of disaster and combat mental health issues. Her assignments and other missions have taken her to Korea, Somalia, Iraq, and Cuba. She has over 150 publications, mainly in the areas of forensic, disaster, suicide, ethics, military combat and operational psychiatry, and women's health issues. Major publications include the recent Military Medicine Textbook on "Combat and Operational Behavioral Health", "The Mental Health Response to the 9/11 Attack on the Pentagon", "Mental Health Interventions for Mass Violence and Disaster" and "Humanitarian Assistance and Health Diplomacy: Military-Civilian Partnership in the 2004 Tsunami Aftermath". She is currently the senior editor on the forthcoming: Forensic Military Mental Health, Women at War and The Use of Complementary and Alternative Medicines in the military.