

# Fitzhugh Mullan, M.D.

Murdock Head Professor of Medicine and Health Policy  
George Washington University

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Dr. Mullan is the Murdock Head Professor of Medicine and Health Policy at the George Washington University. His research and policy work focus on US and international health workforce issues. His US work includes the W.K. Kellogg Foundation funded Beyond Flexner Study and the Josiah Macy Jr. funded Medical Education Futures Study. He is the Principal Investigator of the Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) Coordinating Center. He previously served as Principal Investigator of the Gates Foundation funded Sub-Saharan African Medical School Study (SAMSS).

He is a graduate of Harvard University and the University of Chicago Medical School and is board certified in pediatrics. He served 23 years in the United States Public Health Service, starting as a physician in the National Health Service Corps and later as director of the program. He subsequently worked at the NIH, served on the staff of Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, directed the Bureau of Health Professions, and attained the rank of Assistant Surgeon General. He also served as Secretary of Health and Environment for the State of New Mexico, as a member of the Council on Graduate Medical Education, and on the President's Task Force on Health Care Reform. He has written widely for professional and general audiences. His books include *White Coat, Clenched Fist: The Political Education of an American Physician* and *Big Doctoring: Profiles in Primary Care*. He is an appointed commissioner of the National Health Care Workforce Commission, the Founding Board Chair of Seed Global Health, and a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.