



Dr. Rafael Rodríguez-Mercado, MD, FAANS, FACS

Chancellor, Medical Science Campus
University of Puerto Rico

Dr. Rafael Rodríguez Mercado is an alumni of the School of Medicine of the UPR-Medical Sciences Campus where he obtained his M.D. degree in 1988. He completed his residency in Neurosurgery in 1995 at UPR-MSC, and proceeded to pursue a fellowship in Clinical Neurology from Massachusetts General (1993). He also completed fellowships in Interventional Radiology UPR-MSC in 1995 and in Endovascular Neuro-Surgery at State University of New York, Buffalo (1997).

After completing studies, in 1997 Dr. Rafael Rodríguez Mercado was recruited as faculty of UPR-MSC School of Medicine. He has developed several research projects during the past 16 years. Currently, he has four active projects in the study of Aneurysm and Stroke, under a translational research model. He has institutionalized and is the Director, since 2001, of a Fellowship in Endovascular Surgery at UPR-MSC, School of Medicine. This Fellowship Program has trained ten “fellows” which are serving not only Puerto Rico but also other countries in Central and South America. This Program currently has three “Fellows” in training. Dr. Rodríguez Mercado has published 23 peer reviewed journal articles and has also authored three book chapters. Through his academic career he has made over 150 oral and poster presentations in local, national and international meetings. Dr. Rafael Rodríguez Mercado is a member of the US Army Reserve in the rank of Colonel of the Medical Corps. He was Commander of the 369th Army Reserve Hospital Surgical Unit during the years 2002-2004. He is also a member of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, National Naval Medical Center Bethesda, and Brooke Army Center. Dr. Rodríguez Mercado was Command Surgeon 1st MSC USAR in Puerto Rico from 2006 to 2012 and at the present moment is serving at the Puerto Rico Army National Guard as Assistant Surgeon.

Dr. Rafael Rodríguez Mercado has always shown a high degree of professionalism, integrity and loyalty towards the Institution. He is the Director and Chief of the Neuro-Endovascular Surgical Unit and Stroke Center of the UPR-MSC School of Medicine. This Center also serves the patients of the Administration of Medical Services of Puerto Rico (known for its initials in Spanish as “ASEM”). He is a member of several professional organizations and also offers his services Ad-Honorem to the Puerto Rico Health Department as a member of the Catastrophic Diseases Board. Since 2009 serves as Chancellor of the Medical Sciences Campus of the University of Puerto Rico.

Dr. Rodríguez Mercado’s professional/academic background and experience definitely constitute a strength towards the accomplishment of the goals and objectives of our Institution.