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D.A. Henderson is Professor of Public Health and Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh and Resident Fellow of the Center for Biosecurity of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. He is Dean Emeritus of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and a Founding Director (1998) of the Hopkins Center for Civilian Biodefense Strategies. From November 2001 through April 2003, he served as Director of the Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness and, later, as Principal Science Advisor, in the Office of Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Dr. Henderson's previous positions include: Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President (1990-93); Dean of the Faculty of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health (1977-90); and Director of the World Health Organization's global smallpox eradication campaign (1966-77).

In 2002, he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. He is the recipient also of the National Medal of Science; the National Academy of Sciences' Public Welfare Medal; and the Japan Prize, shared with two colleagues. He has received honorary degrees from 14 universities and special awards from 15 countries.

Dr. Henderson, a Lakewood, Ohio native, graduated from Oberlin College, from the University of Rochester School of Medicine, and the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. He served as medical resident at the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, New York.