



Dr. James Steele received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Michigan State College in 1941 and a Master's of Public Health from Harvard University in 1942. He went on to establish the veterinary division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 1947. He then boldly introduced the principles of veterinary public health to the U.S. and countries all around the globe. His outstanding achievements have saved countless human and animal lives and has helped the world to realize higher standards of living through a better understanding of the epidemiology of diseases shared by animals and man—the zoonoses. As a U.S. Public Health Service officer, he became the first Assistant Surgeon General for Veterinary Affairs and later was appointed as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health & Human Services at the rank of Admiral (two stars). He has received numerous awards over his illustrious career to include the Surgeon General's Medallion in 2006, presented by SG Richard H. Carmona. He is the only veterinarian to ever receive that prestigious award.

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Craig Nash Carter
With Cynthia Gregg Hoobler