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Dan Derksen M.D., is the Walter H. Pearce Endowed Chair, Professor & Director of the Center for Rural Health (CRH) and the Community, Environment & Policy Division at the University of Arizona's Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. As CRH Director, he oversees the State Office of Rural Health, the Rural Hospital Flexibility Program, the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program and other Center activities.

Dr. Derksen completed a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship in 2008 with U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman. He researched and drafted federal legislative provisions to improve the supply and distribution of the nation's health workforce that were included in Title V of the "Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act."

In 2011 Governor Susana Martinez appointed Dr. Derksen the Director, New Mexico Office of Health Care Reform where he submitted the state's health insurance exchange establishment proposal funded for \$34 million by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Dr. Derksen serves on the Arizona Health Improvement Plan Advisory Committee to the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). He chaired the American Academy of Family Physicians Commission on Governmental Advocacy in 2013-14. He served on the American Hospital Association's Section on Rural or Small Hospitals Governing Council 2011-14, and currently serves on the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association's Small Rural Hospital Constituency Group, the AZ Rural Health Association Board, and the AZ Academy of Family Physicians Board of Directors.