

# GLENN RENNELS, MD

Former Chief Technology Officer, Regional Office



In 1999, Kaiser Permanente identified an urgent need to make health care more personal and more convenient for our members. In that same year, I became Chief Technology Officer, and those health care priorities determined how we employed computer software over the next six years.

We created Internet software that offered members a Web page about their personal physician, including health care advice endorsed by that physician (Physician Home Pages). For members who did not yet have a personal physician, we created a Web site at which members could see physician biographies and select a personal physician (Personal Physician Selection Online).

At that time, KP HealthConnect was not even on the horizon, so we created interim Web products that offered immediate advantages to our physicians and members, and helped physicians learn to use computers. Today, our physicians are transitioning successfully onto KP HealthConnect.

It's been my good fortune to enjoy two careers: as a physician and also a computer scientist. I'm grateful for that.

**"I'VE ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED IN TECHNOLOGY IN A MEDICAL SETTING."**

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ANESTHESIOLOGY, SANTA CLARA

## 2007 Cecil Cutting, MD LEADERSHIP AWARD

When many physicians were still barely computer literate, Glenn Rennels, MD, was already using IT to enhance medical care.

Joining TPMG in 1990, it didn't take long for Dr. Rennels' considerable expertise to begin developing various innovative IT systems to make TPMG one of the most technologically sophisticated medical groups in the country.

He became TPMG's first Chief Technology Officer in 1999. Physician Home Pages, the Personal Physician Selection Online, eConsult, eRx, and eChart were developed and deployed regionwide under his leadership.

Dr. Rennels also was instrumental in creating the role of APIC for Technology, and in the organization's transition to KP HealthConnect.

Although he no longer serves as CTO, he's still keeping an eye out for emerging technologies.

