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## Steering Committee Biographies

### **Noel Brewer, PhD**

Professor of Health Behavior  
University of North Carolina  
Chair  
National HPV Vaccination Roundtable  
Twitter: @noelTbrewer

Dr. Brewer studies how people make risky health decisions. His current work focuses on increasing HPV vaccination, communication the harms of smoking, and encouraging appropriate use of cancer screening tests. Dr. Brewer is Associate Editor of *Health Psychology Review*. He co-edited the FDA's book on risk communication, *Communicating Risks and Benefits: An Evidence-Based User's Guide*.

### **Debbie Saslow, PhD**

Senior Director, HPV Related and Women's Cancers  
American Cancer Society  
Vice-Chair, National HPV Vaccination Roundtable

Dr. Saslow serves as the ACS' lead for HPV-related cancers and directs their HPV vaccination nationwide priority program of work, provides strategic direction and leads staff teams working on the implementation of HPV-related activities, and provides evidence-based guidance to ACS. She also is responsible for developing and updating ACS guidelines, including guidelines for breast and cervical cancer screening and for HPV vaccination. Before joining ACS, Dr. Saslow was the coordinator of the President's National Action Plan on Breast Cancer. She received her undergraduate degree in biology with honors from Brown University, her PhD in human and molecular genetics from Yale University, and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the National Cancer Institute's Laboratory of Pathology in Women's Cancers.

**Bethany Kintigh, RN, BSN**

Immunization Program Manager  
Iowa Department of Public Health

Ms. Kintigh provides administrative oversight to implement and maintain activities for components of the Immunization Program. In this role, she recently coordinated the successful development of a statewide campaign to promote HPV vaccination. Ms. Kintigh worked as the state's perinatal Hepatitis B coordinator from 2010-2013. Ms. Kintigh holds a degree in nursing from the College of Saint Mary, Omaha, Nebraska. She is also the mother of two fully vaccinated adolescents and is well-respected within her community and the state as a vaccine expert.

**Sarah Kobrin, PhD, MPH**

Acting Branch Chief  
Health Systems and Interventions Research  
National Cancer Institute

Dr. Kobrin has worked in the field of cancer control for more than 20 years. Her areas of interest include uptake of the HPV vaccine, shared medical decision making, use of theory in intervention research, and measurement, particularly regarding shared decision making and cancer screening. Her research includes development of a scale, based on attitudes rather than beliefs, to assess perceptions of breast cancer risk. Prior to moving to the NCI in December 2003, Dr. Kobrin was a Walther Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Duke University Cancer Prevention and Control Program. She trained at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Public Health.

**Kristin Oliver, MD, MHS**

Assistant Professor  
Departments of Pediatrics and Environmental Medicine & Public Health  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Dr. Oliver is a pediatrician and public health specialist. Her scholarly and research interests focus on HPV vaccination, tobacco cessation and school based health. She is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics' HPV Expert Physician Panel, and serves as their representative to the National HPV Vaccination Roundtable. Dr. Oliver has extensive experience working in public health and policy agencies. She served as a health care analyst for GAO in Washington DC, and is a consultant with the New York City Department of Health on their HPV vaccination programs.

**Rebecca Perkins, MD, MSc**

Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Boston University School of Medicine/Boston Medical Center

Dr. Perkins has been actively involved in cervical cancer prevention research since 2003. Her work focuses on attitudes toward Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination in parents of low-income, minority adolescents in the United States and the providers who serve them. Dr. Perkins is also studying interventions to improve HPV vaccination rates in low-income, minority adolescents. Dr. Perkins is currently working with the American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Cancer Society and CDC on national HPV vaccination work.

**Karen Peterson, PhD**

Vice President of Programs  
Prevent Cancer Foundation

Dr. Peterson has experience in social science applications to health and medicine, with interests focusing on divisions of labor. She currently serves as Vice President of Programs at the Prevent Cancer Foundation, where she has provided leadership for mission-driven program in research, education, and community outreach in cancer prevention and early detections. She received her master's and doctoral degrees in Sociology and a Certificate in African Studies from Northwestern University. She has a BA cum laude from Indiana University.

**Margot Savoy, MD, MPH, FAAFP, FABC, CPE**

Medical Director  
Christiana Care Health System  
Department of Family and Community Medicine  
State of Delaware Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services

Dr. Savoy has a wide range of immunization experience at both the local and national level. In addition to continuing to work on implementing quality improvement around vaccination delivery and counseling at her practices, she serves on the Immunization Council of Delaware and Delaware Department of Health Immunization committee. She completed the AAFP Vaccine Science Fellowship and continues to work with the AAFP to encourage practices working to improve their vaccine rates as an advisor to the Adolescent Immunization Champion project and Vaccine Science Fellowship. She is the AAFP liaison to the ACIP and serves on the HPV and smallpox workgroups. Dr. Savoy graduated from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 2002, completed Family Medicine Residency Program at the Crozer-Keystone Family Medicine Residency Program in 2005. In 2008, she graduated from UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health with a Master of Public Health in Public Health Leadership.

**Litjen (L.J.) Tan, PhD, MS**

Chief Strategy Officer

Immunization Action Coalition

Dr. Tan joined the Immunization Action Coalition in 2013. Prior to that, Dr. Tan was the Director of Medicine and Public Health at the American Medical Association for 15 years. Dr. Tan also serves as Co-Chair of the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit, together with the CDC and the National Vaccine Program Office. Dr. Tan recently served on the National Quality Forum's Adult Immunizations Expert Committee and currently serves on the Pharmacy Quality Alliance's Adult Immunization Working Group as well as the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Vaccine Study Group.

**Tami Thomas, PhD, RN, FAANP, FAAN**

Associate Dean of Research and PhD Program Director

Tenured Associate Professor

Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Florida International University

Dr. Thomas represents the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP). Dr. Thomas serves on the National Research Committee of NAPNAP, and is the elected national Chair of NAPNAP's immunization Special Interest Group. She also serves as the current President of the South-East Region for the Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine. Her research has been funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Thomas is a graduate of the University of Florida where she received her BSN, MSN and PHD in Nursing with a minor in Epidemiology in 2006.

**Melinda Wharton, MD, MPH**

Director

Immunization Services Division

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Wharton joined CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer in 1986 and was assigned to the Tennessee Department of Health and Environment in Nashville, TN. In 1989, she began work as a medical epidemiologist in the Epidemiology Program Office at CDC. She joined CDC's immunization program in 1992 and from 2006 to 2013 she served as Deputy Director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. Dr. Wharton has worked extensively on issues related to vaccine policy, vaccine safety science, and public health response. Dr. Wharton received her medical degree from Harvard Medical School and Masters in Public Health from Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.



## Speaker Biographies

### **Chi Bahk**

Lead Associate

Booz Allen Hamilton

Twitter: bahk\_chi@bah.com

Ms. Bahk is a public health and business operations professional, with experience in project and product management in domains of health technology, novel data analytics, biosurveillance, and pharmacovigilance. She's worked as part of academia, tech start-up, and large consulting company, and served clients across government (FDA, CDC) and industry clients (top 10 life science companies). Her work focuses on utilizing novel approaches to health vigilance, especially in the areas of disease monitoring and patient understanding.

### **Rosalind S. Bello, MA**

Program Director

Office of Health Policy

MD Anderson Cancer Center



### **Alix Casler, M.D., F.A.A.P.**

Chief of Pediatrics

Orlando Health Physician Associates

Dr. Casler is a board-certified pediatrician and has practiced with Orlando Health Physician Associates in central Florida for nearly 23 years. She directs the Quality Improvement Curriculum for the University of Florida Pediatric Residency at Orlando Health. She graduated from Dartmouth College and the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, and did her residency training in pediatrics at The Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. In her free time, she enjoys being the mother of 4 young adults, aged 19 through 23 years, as well as her Shepard mix, Ben.



**Amanda Dempsey, MD, PhD, MPH**

Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
University of Colorado Denver

Dr. Dempsey is Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado Denver and a practicing General Pediatrician. She has studied pediatric immunization delivery for the last 15 years, with a focus on adolescent vaccination, HPV vaccination and vaccine hesitancy. She has been involved in several large, pragmatic, randomized, controlled trials related to improving HPV vaccination in the primary care setting and is a practicing general pediatrician. She serves on the board of the Colorado Children's Immunization Coalition.



**Eve Dubé, PhD**

Institut national de santé publique du Québec  
Centre de recherche du CHU de Québec - Université Laval  
E-mail: [Eve.Dube@inspq.qc.ca](mailto:Eve.Dube@inspq.qc.ca)  
Twitter: @DubeEve

Dr. Dubé is a medical anthropologist working at Quebec National Institute of Public Health. I'm also a researcher at the Research Center of the CHU-Québec and an invited professor in the Anthropology Department at Laval University. My research focuses on the socio-cultural field surrounding immunization. I'm leading the Social Sciences and Humanities Network of the Canadian Immunization Research Network. I'm interested in how to address vaccine hesitancy and doing various projects around this issue. I have been involved in HPV program evaluation in Quebec and Canada.



**Adam G. Dunn, PhD**

Centre for Health Informatics, Macquarie University

Twitter: @adamgdunn

Dr. Dunn is an Associate Professor with the Centre for Health Informatics at Macquarie University (in Sydney, Australia). With his team, he applies machine learning and network science methods to solve problems in clinical trial research and public health. He is known for developing data-driven methods to measure the ways in which funding and conflicts of interest influence research integrity in clinical trial research, and translating those methods into tools to improve the integrity and efficiency of systematic reviews. His current interests include evaluating methods that use social media to understand and predict health behaviors, and observing the spread and persistence of evidence and misinformation in the public domain.



**Tamika Felder**

Chief Visionary

Cervivor

Twitter: @tamikafelder @cervivor

Ms. Felder is in love with life, even more so after a diagnosis of cervical cancer in 2001 at the age of 25. Ms. Felder triumphed in her fight against this disease and now uses her experience to help educate other women around the world about ways to prevent it. She is the founder and Chief Visionary of Cervivor, a national non-profit organization dedicated to cervical cancer awareness through a network of survivors and their friends. Ms. Felder currently resides in the Washington, D.C. area with her husband and is an award-winning television producer and TV host by day.



**Marcie Fisher-Borne, PhD, MSW, MPH**

Director  
HPV Vaccination  
American Cancer Society

Dr. Fisher-Borne is the Director of HPV Vaccination for the American Cancer Society and PI of the HPV Vaccinate Adolescents against Cancers (VACs) project. The VACs project, funded through the CDC, is a national initiative to improve HPV vaccine rates through evidence-based quality improvement interventions in Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers (FQHCs) and through other key clinical, state and national partnerships. Dr. Fisher-Borne

has also served as the Director of Evidence Based Practice for ACS where she provided strategic direction for cancer disparities and equity initiatives in the southeastern U.S. She received her master's in public health leadership from the Gillings School of Global Public Health at UNC Chapel Hill and her Ph.D. in social intervention research from the UNC School of Social Work.

**Melissa Gilkey, PhD**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Health Behavior  
UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health



**Chad Hermann, MA, PhD ABD**

Communication Director  
Kids Plus Pediatrics

Mr. Hermann is Communications Director for Kids Plus Pediatrics — a cutting edge, independent practice in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Before joining Kids Plus, Mr. Hermann worked as a communication consultant for a wide variety of clients, including start-ups, non-profits, advocacy groups, political candidates, and health care organizations. Before that, he taught full-time at Carnegie Mellon University's Tepper School of Business, where he was named one of the Top 25 Undergraduate Business Professors in the country by Businessweek magazine.





**Jason Mendelsohn**

HPV-related oral cancer survivor  
Board Member  
Head & Neck Cancer Alliance  
Board Member  
Florida Hospital Cancer Institute Foundation  
President  
Ashar Group , LLC  
<http://www.SupermanHPV.com>  
[Facebook.com/SupermanHPV](https://www.facebook.com/SupermanHPV)  
Twitter: @SupermanHPV

Mr. Mendelsohn is 48 years old, married 21 years, and father to three kids. He launched [www.SupermanHPV.com](http://www.SupermanHPV.com) to provide inspiration and information for those diagnosed with HPV-related oral cancer. His goal is to share his cancer story in as many languages as possible, on all seven continents, to save lives worldwide.

**Cynthia Rand, MD, MPH**

Associate Professor  
Pediatrics  
University of Rochester Medical Center

**Jasmin A. Tiro, PhD**

Associate Professor  
Department of Clinical Sciences  
UT Southwestern Medical Center  
Co-Leader  
Population Sciences and Cancer Control Program  
Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center

Dr. Tiro's research program develops and tests multi-level interventions to promote HPV vaccination and cancer screening among underserved populations seen by urban safety-net healthcare systems. Recently, her 9-year research/quality improvement partnership with Parkland Health & Hospital System received the Texas Hospital Association's Bill Aston Award for Quality. In 2016, Parkland's HPV up-to-date coverage rate was 62%, well above NIS-Teen estimates for Dallas county (23.9%), Texas (32.9%) and the U.S. (43.4%).



**Todd Wolynn, MD, IBCLC**

CEO

Kids Plus Pediatrics

Twitter: @DrToddWo

Dr. Wolynn is President, CEO, and co-owner of Kids Plus Pediatrics — a cutting edge, independent practice in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He also serves as Chief Executive Director of the nationally renowned Breastfeeding Center of Pittsburgh, and as CEO of the

National Breastfeeding Center. An active member and fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Wolynn is a nationally recognized expert on pediatric sleep, breastfeeding, immunization, practice management, and the use of social media in pediatrics.