



2021 NATIONAL MEETING | REACHING NEW HEIGHTS



Agenda

DAY 1: June 9, 2021, 1:00 – 3:20 p.m. EST

1:00 p.m. LIFTOFF: Meeting Open

- Dr. Kristin Oliver, Co-Chair, National HPV Vaccination Roundtable/American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- Dr. Rebecca Perkins, Co-Chair, National HPV Vaccination Roundtable/ American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)

1:10 p.m. HPV Impact Story

- Gail Jackson, Psychotherapist and Survivor of HPV-attributed Tonsil Cancer, Head and Neck Cancer Alliance

1:15 p.m. OPENING REMARKS: Transmitting the Importance of Adolescent Population Health

- Dr. David Bell, President, Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine

1:25 p.m. FEATURED PRESENTATION: Reaching New Heights Together: A National Perspective from the Director of CDC's Immunization Services & the Chief Medical Officer of Texas Children's Pediatrics

- Dr. Melinda Wharton, Director, Immunization Services Division, CDC
- Dr. Stanley Spinner, CMO, Texas Children's Pediatrics

Childhood immunization is down over 11 million doses due to pandemic health care disruptions. Protecting children from vaccine-preventable diseases has never been more important. Adolescent vaccine rates lag behind younger children, so we need to activate both the public and private sector to catch up for a safe return to in-person schooling this fall. This session will provide an overview of childhood visits and immunization in the U.S. and describe the efforts of a pediatric health care system to prioritize HPV vaccination as cancer prevention before, during and after the pandemic.

2:00 p.m. BREAK/MOONWALK AT HOME OR OFFICE**2:15 p.m. PANEL PRESENTATION: There's Space for Everybody: A Panel on HPV Vaccination in Diverse Communities**

NASA's twitter motto is "there's space for everybody." We believe this applies to vaccination as well. Every child should be fully protected from vaccine-preventable diseases.

HPV vaccination rates for teens have traditionally been higher among communities of color than white populations thanks to strong public vaccination programs for children. Due to pandemic disruptions, overall adolescent immunization rates have fallen 15-20%, with HPV vaccination down 19.2% as of late April 2021. Rates have fallen more among public vaccine recipients, which tend to serve more diverse populations. Prior to the pandemic, males, rural teens and insured teens had lower vaccination rates.

This panel will present both recent research and insights from diverse organizations represented on the HPV Roundtable. This work represents efforts in Asian American, African American/Afro Caribbean, American Indian/Alaskan Native, and Latinx communities.

Moderator:

- Dr. Sherrie Wallington, The George Washington University

Speakers:

- Dr. William Calo, Penn State College of Medicine
- Dr. Milkie Vu, Emory University
- Dr. Isabel Scarinci, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Dr. Patricia Jeudin, University of Miami; African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium
- Dr. Allison Empey, Oregon Health & Science University; Chair, Committee on Native American Child Health, American Academy of Pediatrics

Suggested Pre-Reading:

- Disparities and Reverse Disparities in HPV Vaccination: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis
- A Systematic Review of Practice-, Provider-, and Patient-level Determinants Impacting Asian-Americans' Human Papillomavirus Vaccine Intention and Uptake
- African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium
- HPV Vaccine Uptake among Daughters of Latinx Immigrant Mothers: Findings from a Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial of a Community-based, Culturally Relevant Intervention
- Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
- The Role of Trust in HPV Vaccine Uptake among Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the United States: a Narrative Review

3:15 p.m. Mission Control Check-In: Conclusion Remarks on Public Session**3:20 p.m. ADJOURN PUBLIC SESSION**

DAY 2: June 10, 2021, 12:00 – 2:50 p.m. EST

12:00 p.m. SHOOTING FOR THE MOON: Meeting Open

- Hayley Arceneaux, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Inspiration4 Astronaut

12:05 p.m. WELCOME

- Kristin Oliver, Co-Chair, HPV Roundtable
- Rebecca Perkins, Co-Chair, HPV Roundtable

12:10 p.m. PANEL PRESENTATION: The Atmosphere Matters: Current Data on Insurance and Geography as Determinants of HPV Vaccination

How do we take research on key HPV vaccination determinants and apply it for action at the state level? This session will share recent research findings on effective interventions in rural communities and explore how immunization registries and geographic data mapping can target areas of low vaccination.

Moderator:

- Dr. Heather Brandt, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Speakers:

- Dr. Bernard Fuemmeler, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Dr. Whitney Zahnd, University of Iowa
- Courtney Londo, American Immunization Registry Association

Suggested Pre-Reading:

- A Narrative Review of HPV Vaccination Interventions in Rural U.S. Communities
- Area-Level Variation and Human Papillomavirus Vaccination among Adolescents and Young Adults in the United States: A Systematic Review
- Spatial Access to Vaccines for Children Providers in South Carolina: Implications for HPV Vaccination (cdc.gov)
- AIRA

Bonus Background Materials:

- BCBS Health of America HPV Infographic
- Primary Care Use Among Commercially Insured Adolescents: Evidence from the 2018 Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set
- Trends in Human Papillomavirus Vaccination in Commercially Insured Children in the United States
- The Association between State Medicaid Expansion and Human Papillomavirus Vaccination

1:00 p.m. HPV Survivor Impact Story

- Kim McClellan, President, Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis Foundation (RRPF)
- Eden, Lisa & Jim Tansey, RRP patient, mom and dad

1:10 p.m. PANEL PRESENTATION: Best and Promising Practices to Achieve New Heights in HPV Vaccination Rates: Start at Age 9

Data continue to show the HPV vaccine is safe and effective, yet HPV vaccination rates remain well below national goals and other vaccines that are part of the “adolescent platform.” What can the evidence tell us about the potential benefits and challenges of routinely starting HPV vaccination at age nine? Would starting HPV vaccination at age nine increase HPV uptake and on-time completion? Are providers willing to recommend HPV vaccine at age nine and is it an easier interaction with parents when they do? What does this practice look like in an actual clinic? This panel will explore answers to these questions and more.

Moderator:

- Dr. Bob Bednarczyk, Chair, National HPV Vaccination Roundtable Best Practices Task Group; Emory University

Speakers:

- Dr. Rebecca Perkins, Boston University
- Dr. Melissa Gilkey, UNC
- Dr. Sherri Zorn, The Polyclinic, WA

Suggested Pre-Reading:

- ACS Updates HPV Vaccination Recommendations to Start at Age 9
- Why AAP Recommends Initiating HPV Vaccination as Early As Age 9

2:00 p.m. SPACE WALK

2:10 p.m. VaxTeen Video with Kelly Danielpour

2:15 p.m. PANEL PRESENTATION: Houston, We Made Contact with the AMGA Starship in the Asteroid Belt: Lessons from the HPV Best Practices Learning Collaborative

Eight health systems joined a national HPV learning collaborative launched in early 2020. There were challenges, there were wins and there was commitment! Hear from AMGA's analytic and population health team members on lessons learned on adolescent vaccination and effective interventions during the pandemic. The data tells an impressive story you'll want to see.

Speakers:

- Dr. Elizabeth Ciemins, VP of Research & Analytics, AMGA
- Cori Rattelman, Sr. Research Analyst, AMGA
- Earlean Chambers, Director of Clinical and Quality Population Health Initiatives, AMGA

2:45 p.m. CANCER SURVIVORS & HPV VACCINATION

- Rachael and Annabelle Murray, Mom & Patient, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

2:50 p.m. PUBLIC CLOSING REMARKS: Mission Command to Health Care

3:00 p.m. PUBLIC MEETING ADJOURNS



June 9-10, 2021

SPEAKER BIOS



Allison Empey, MD

Assistant Professor
Oregon Health and Science University

Allison Empey is a general pediatrician at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU). Her professional interests include newborn care, Native American health, community engagement, and mentorship for underrepresented minorities in healthcare. She is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde in Grand Ronde, Oregon, and practices one day per week at her own tribal clinic. She currently chairs the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Native American Child Health and is the Vice Chair of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in her Department of Pediatrics at OHSU.



Bernard F. Fuemmeler, PhD

Professor and Gordon D. Ginder, MD Chair in Cancer Research
Department of Health Behavior and Policy
Virginia Commonwealth University

Bernard F. Fuemmeler PhD is a professor and Gordon D. Ginder, MD Chair in Cancer Research in the Department of Health Behavior and Policy at Virginia Commonwealth University. He is Associate Director of Population Science at VCU's Massey Cancer Center and is an acting Program Leader for the Center's cancer prevention and control program. He also directs the NCI funded T32 institutional training program in cancer prevention and control.

Dr. Fuemmeler's research focuses on understanding the biological, behavioral, social and environmental factors that contribute to lifestyle factors linked to cancer (e.g., tobacco, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, and obesity). His work often applies a life-course framework and incorporates multi-level methods to study these factors. In addition, he is interested in how the field can harness novel statistical methods and leverage digital technologies (e.g., social media, big data, mobile phones and wireless sensors) to address behavioral and social science problems.

Dr. Fuemmeler's research work has been continuously supported by NIH, NCI, and private foundation grants since 2006. He has over 100 peer-reviewed publications, one US patent for his mHealth-related work, and another patent pending.



Bob Bednarczyk, PhD

Chair, National HPV Vaccination Roundtable Best Practices Task Group; Emory University Assistant Professor Global Health & Epidemiology

Robert A. Bednarczyk, PhD is an Assistant Professor of the Hubert Department of Global Health and Department of Epidemiology at Rollins School of Public Health and a member of the Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program at Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University. Concurrent to his work at Emory, Dr. Bednarczyk serves as Affiliate Clinical Investigator at the Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research in Atlanta, Georgia. He is also Adjunct Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the School of Public Health at University at Albany, State University of New York in Rensselaer, New York.



Cori Rattelman

Sr. Research Analyst
American Medical Group Association (AMGA)

Cori Rattelman has almost 17 years' experience as a health analyst, with formal training in health economics and policy. Currently, she provides measure development, comparative data analytics and analytic expertise to AMGA best-practice campaigns and collaboratives. In addition to adolescent immunizations other areas of focus include chronic disease management, with an emphasis on diabetes, heart disease, and osteoporosis.



Courtney Londo, MA

Communication Program Manager
American Immunization Registry Association (AIRA)

Courtney Londo joined AIRA in August 2020. Courtney began her work in immunizations in 2007 with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services where she served in various roles, including flu health education coordinator, adolescent and adult immunization coordinator, and school wellness program coordinator. Courtney has experience managing grants, leading coalitions, organizing communication campaigns, and collaborating with immunization stakeholders, including co-chairing the National Adult Immunization Coordinators Partnership for five years. Courtney is also a writer/consultant with the Immunization Action Coalition.



David L. Bell, MD, MPH

Columbia University Irving Medical Center President,
Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine

David L. Bell, MD, MPH is a professor in the Department of Pediatrics (College of Physicians & Surgeons) and in the Heilbrunn Department of Population and Family Health (Mailman School of Public Health) at Columbia University Medical Center. Since 1999, Dr. Bell has been medical director of the Young Men's Clinic delivering primary care to adolescent and young adult males and advocating for the right of young men to have access to high quality and respectful services which includes attention to their sexual and reproductive health.

Dr. Bell is active locally, nationally, and internationally. He advises and teaches medical students, residents, and public health students. He is currently the President of the Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine. He serves on Mayor de Blasio's Sexual Health Education Task Force. He is on the boards of the Partnership for Male Youth and Promundo Global. Internationally he has worked with colleagues in the Dominican Republic, St. Lucia, Uganda, and South Africa.



Earlean S. Chambers, RN, MS, CPHQ

Director of Clinical and Quality, Population Health Initiatives
American Medical Group Association (AMGA)

Earlean Chambers is the Director of Clinical and Quality at AMGA. She provides clinical and quality improvement expertise for AMGA Foundation's quality initiatives that focus on integrating best practices into population health for medical groups and integrated health systems. As a registered nurse, Earlean has over 30 years working in multiple healthcare settings serving in leadership roles in both management and quality.



Elizabeth Ciemins PhD, MPH, MA

Vice President of Research and Analytics American
Medical Group Association (AMGA)

Dr. Ciemins is Vice President of Research and Analytics at AMGA. Dr. Ciemins helps AMGA support member organizations on their journeys from volume- to value-based care. Dr. Ciemins provides oversight for quantitative and mixed methods research projects, measure development and testing, analytics support for disease-specific best practices learning collaboratives, and research projects in partnership with AMGA members and academic institutions. She is an expert on balancing lean process improvement methods with insights from complexity science.



Gail Jackson, MA

Psychotherapist and Survivor of HPV-attributed Tonsil Cancer
Rehoboth Beach, DE



Hayley Arceneaux, PA

Cancer Survivor and HPV vaccination advocate

Hayley Arceneaux is a St. Jude Children's Research Hospital employee, bone cancer survivor and private astronaut who is now a physician assistant; she will join billionaire Jared Isaacman on SpaceX's first private spaceflight Inspiration4 slated to launch no earlier than the fourth quarter of 2021.[4] At age 29 (as of February 2021), Arceneaux could become the youngest American in space.



Heather Brandt, PhD

HPV Cancer Prevention Program St.
Jude Children's Research Hospital

Heather M. Brandt, PhD, is director of the HPV Cancer Prevention Program at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and co-associate director for outreach in the St. Jude Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also serves as a full member of the cancer center in the department of epidemiology and cancer control. She is a faculty affiliate in the University of Memphis School of Public Health and University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health.

As a social and behavioral scientist, her research interests focus on cancer-related health disparities in cancer prevention and control and specifically on working with stakeholders to effectively use what we know works to increase HPV vaccination. This involves examining, describing, and intervening on cancer-related health disparities through innovative approaches in partnership with communities (defined broadly and diversely). Her research emphasizes dissemination and implementation of evidence-based approaches, knowledge-based practice, and co-creating knowledge with stakeholders in order to improve outcomes through equitable and informed action on multiple levels.

Dr. Brandt joined St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in July 2020 after 16 years on faculty in the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina, and most recently as associate dean in the Graduate School and professor of health promotion, education, and behavior in the Arnold School. She lives in Memphis, Tennessee with her husband, Forrest Alton, who runs their consulting business, 1000 Feathers, LLC, which seeks to bridge the divide between vision and strategy to achieve meaningful results.



Isabel C. Scarinci, PhD, MPH

Professor, Associate Director for Faculty Development and Education
Division of Preventive Medicine
Associate Director for Globalization and Cancer Disparities
Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Alabama, Birmingham

Dr. Scarinci is a behavioral scientist with a deep commitment to the elimination of cancer disparities in the US and in low- and middle-income countries. The focus of her work is on the application of behavioral science to public health by promoting behavior change at the population level. Her primary area of interest is cancer prevention and control (including tobacco control) among low-income, racial/ethnic minorities, and immigrant populations (particularly Latinos and African Americans). She is particularly interested in the development, implementation, and evaluation of community-based programs that are theory based and culturally relevant to underserved populations in the U.S. and abroad. In terms of methodological approaches to research, she has expertise in Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) and use of mixed methodology (qualitative/quantitative), particularly as it relates to culturally relevant needs/assets assessments. She also leads several training programs in health disparities targeting undergraduate and graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and junior faculty in collaboration with other universities in the US and abroad.



Kelly Danielpour

High school senior and the founder of VaxTeen

Kelly Danielpour is a high school senior and the founder of VaxTeen, an organization dedicated to helping teenagers make informed decisions about vaccines. She works as an intern at the Fielding School of Public Health at UCLA, focusing on researching and improving vaccine uptake and policy. She is also a member of UNITY Consortium's Teen Advisory Council, the California and National HPV Roundtables, and the Vaccine Working Group on Ethics and Policy. Kelly will be attending Stanford University in the fall and hopes to one day work in health policy, focusing on increasing access to preventative care as a way to reduce health disparities.



Kim McClellan, BS

President
Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis Foundation

Diagnosed with Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis at the age of five, Kim has been on the front row to watch HPV research unfold. Over 250 surgical interventions later, in 2014, Kim began to take her disease and create a purpose from it, which led to her becoming a leader with the Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis Foundation, and in 2021, Kim was named President.

Finding non-surgical treatments, pulmonary RRP treatments, the elusive cure, as well as advocating for Gardasil compliance are current RRPF focus areas. From the beginning of her work in RRP, the goal was to bring RRP into the broader HPV conversation. Kim has been a guest speaker at other state HPV events, as well as serves as the NORD Co-Ambassador in Arkansas. A proud Razorback, Kim and her husband, Lee, call Bentonville, Arkansas home.



Kristin Oliver, MD

Assistant Professor
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Dr. Kristin Oliver is a pediatrician and preventive medicine physician. She is current an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Environmental Medicine & Public Health at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She is the Co-Chair of the HPV Vaccination Roundtable and represents the AAP on the Steering Committee of the Roundtable. Dr. Oliver has extensive experience working in public health and policy agencies. She served as a healthcare analyst for GAO in Washington, DC, and has conducted projects with the CDC, the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and UNICEF. Dr. Oliver holds a BA from McGill University and an MHS in Health Policy from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She received her MD from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and completed residencies in Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine at the Mount Sinai Hospital.



Melinda Wharton, MD, MPH

Director, Immunization Services Division
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Disease
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Melinda Wharton received her medical degree from Harvard Medical School and Master's in Public Health from Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. She completed her internship and residency in internal medicine at the University of Michigan Medical Center, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and her infectious diseases fellowship at the Duke University Medical Center, in Durham, North Carolina. 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, CDC. She joined CDC's immunization program in 1992, and since that time has held a variety of positions of increasing responsibility. From 2006 to 2013 she served as Deputy Director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. In December 2013 she became the Director, Immunization Services Division, NCIRD. She has worked extensively on issues related to vaccine policy, vaccine safety science, and public health response. Dr. Wharton has authored or co-authored more than 80 scientific journal articles, book chapters, and CDC publications.



Melissa Gilkey, PhD

Associate Professor of Health Behavior
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Melissa Gilkey is a social and behavioral scientist in the University of North Carolina's Gillings School of Global Public Health. With research interests in adolescent health, cancer prevention and health services research, Dr. Gilkey studies individual, interpersonal and organizational approaches to improving the delivery of adolescent vaccines, including HPV vaccine. Her work includes survey research to understand barriers to vaccination, such as provider and parental hesitancy, as well as intervention research aimed at improving vaccine delivery systems.



Milkie Vu, PhD

Emory University

Milkie Vu has more than eight years of experiences working in Chicagoland and metropolitan Atlanta on community-engaged research programs addressing health equity. Most of her 35 publications (12 as the first author) focus on structural and socio-cultural determinants of health among immigrants, refugees, and underserved communities in the United States, with an emphasis on cancer prevention and control. Currently, she is working on studies examining multilevel factors impacting U.S. Vietnamese parents' decision-making regarding HPV vaccination for their adolescent children. Her research has been funded by several organizations, including the National Cancer Institute, American Psychological Foundation, and American Association for Cancer Education. @milkievu



Patricia Jeudin, MD

University of Miami
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Dr. Patricia Jeudin is a board-certified OB-GYN currently working at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Miami. She provides services in the Dysplasia clinic under the Division of Gynecologic Oncology. She completed her bachelor's degree at Virginia Union University in Richmond VA, then matriculated to Boston University School of Medicine where she obtained her medical degree. Dr. Jeudin, completed her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Boston Medical Center in Massachusetts.

Her research interests involve disparities in cervical cancer screening and treatment of cervical dysplasia as well as ways to mitigate these disparities. She has evaluated adequacy of both short and long-term follow-up subsequent to surgical management for high-grade cervical dysplasia among low-income and minority women in an inner city setting. She has published several articles on the effects of race and ethnicity of HPV vaccination.

In a addition to clinical obligations, Dr. Jeudin has served as a physician volunteer with Project Medishare- a nonprofit organization based in the University of Miami and in the Central Plateau of Haiti, working to help initiate a cervical screening program for women in rural Haiti and is a member of the African Caribbean Cancer Consortium since 2019. Her current research focuses on identifying high-risk HPV subtypes in Haitian men and women living with HIV. @DrPeppMD



Rebecca B. Perkins, MD, MSc

Co-Chair, National HPV Vaccination Roundtable
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)
Associate Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Boston University School of Medicine

Dr. Perkins is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Boston University School of Medicine and Boston Medical Center. Her career is dedicated to reducing health disparities in cervical cancer. Her current research focuses on improving utilization of HPV vaccination and cervical cancer screening guidelines. She was Co-Chair and one of the lead authors of the 2019 ASCCP Risk-Based Management Consensus Guidelines, and Co-Chaired the President's Cancer Panel Cervical Cancer Subcommittee. She currently serves as co-Chair of the National HPV Vaccination Roundtable.



Sherri Zorn, MD

Pediatrics Specialist
The Polyclinic, WA

Dr. Zorn is a general pediatrician with 23 year's experience at The Polyclinic, a large multispecialty group in downtown Seattle. She is the physician vaccine champion for pediatrics and is passionate about educating providers and staff about the HPV vaccine as cancer prevention. Under her leadership, Polyclinic Pediatrics was selected for the 2018 HPV Vaccine is Cancer Prevention Champion Award, which is given jointly by CDC, American Cancer Society and the Association of American Cancer Institutes. Dr. Zorn is an active member of the Washington State HPV Task Force and is involved in many HPV vaccine projects both locally and nationally to prevent HPV cancers. She is co-founder of a collaborative partnership called HPV Free Washington.

Dr. Zorn earned her medical degree from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in 1992. She completed her internship and residency in Pediatrics at the University of Utah where she was also a clinical instructor and chief resident.



Sherrie Wallington, PhD

Assistant Professor
GW School of Nursing

Sherrie Flynt Wallington, Ph.D., is a tenure-track assistant professor and health disparities researcher specializing in oncology in the Policy, Populations and Systems department. Dr. Wallington teaches and conducts research on health communication, social determinants of health, and community-based participatory research strategies that focus on prevention, health disparities, and clinical trial recruitment and engagement. She has a particular interest in cancer, particularly prostate, breast, and HPV-associated cancers. The American Cancer Society, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the National Cancer Institute support her research. She has authored several peer-reviewed publications and serves as a scientific grant reviewer for the NIH and other national foundations. In addition, she is a program evaluator and consultant on NIH-funded, governmental, and foundation grant awards.



Stanley Spinner, MD

Chief Medical Officer
Vice President
Texas Children's Pediatrics/Texas Children's Urgent Care

Chief Medical Officer, Texas Children's Pediatrics, 2012- present
Chief Medical Officer, Texas Children's Urgent Care, 2014 - present
Vice President, Texas Children's Pediatrics and Texas Children's Urgent Care, 2015- present
Board of Directors, Texas Children's Pediatrics, 1997- present
Board of Directors, Texas Children's Urgent Care, 2014- present
Baylor College of Medicine, Assistant Clinical Professor
Board Certified, American Board of Pediatrics
Board of Directors, The Immunization Partnership, 2014-2019



Whitney Zahnd, PhD

Assistant Professor, Health Management and Policy
College of Public Health University of Iowa

Whitney Zahnd, PhD, joined the Department of Health Management and Policy as an assistant professor in March 2021. Her research employs health services research, social epidemiological, and spatial methods to address rural cancer disparities across the continuum and to evaluate access to health care services. Dr. Zahnd is a 2021 National Rural Health Association Rural Health Fellow and currently serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Rural Health. Before joining the University of Iowa faculty, Dr. Zahnd completed post-doctoral training and served as research faculty at the Rural & Minority Health Research Center at the University of South Carolina. Prior to earning her doctorate in community health from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2018, she worked for eleven years as a master's trained researcher at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine supporting rural health and cancer disparities research.

A priority for Dr. Zahnd is training and mentorship. She works with students at all levels to help them develop research and professional skills to reduce rural health disparities and improve health care quality and equity and support them in meeting their academic and career goals.



William Calo, PhD, JD

Assistant Professor, Public Health Sciences & Family and Community Medicine
Implementation Research Director, Penn State Project ECHO
Penn State College of Medicine

Dr. William Calo is an assistant professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the Penn State College of Medicine (PSCOM). He is also affiliated with the Department of Family and Community Medicine and the Penn State Cancer Institute. Dr. Calo's research program examines how to adapt, implement, and evaluate best practices to improve cancer prevention and control among underserved communities, especially rural and Hispanic populations. Dr. Calo is currently focused on the study of communication, systems, and policy interventions to address vaccine hesitancy and improve HPV vaccination. He is the PI of an NCI-funded (MERIT R37) RCT using a novel hybrid effectiveness-implementation design and the ECHO model to deliver communication best practices to rural primary care providers to improve HPV vaccine uptake in Pennsylvania. Dr. Calo is also passionate about minority health and the application of implementation science to better advance health equity. He participated in the NCI's Training Institute for Dissemination and Implementation Research in Cancer (TIDIRC), and he leads the Implementation Science Collaborative in PSCOM. He serves as the co-leader for the Pennsylvania HPV Workgroup (Pennsylvania Cancer Coalition).