

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Karynlee Harrington

Acting Executive Director, Maine Health Data Organization

Karynlee Harrington is the Executive Director of the Maine Quality Forum, the State organization responsible for the analysis of health quality data and promotion of health quality initiatives and the Acting Executive Director of the Maine Health Data Organization, the State's health data center. Prior to joining state government, Ms. Harrington served as the Vice President of Sales & Customer Support for CIGNA HealthCare of Maine and New Hampshire. Ms. Harrington has over 20 years' experience working in health care. She earned her B.S. from the University of New Hampshire in Health Management and Policy.

Charles Hawley

Cycle III Grant Project Manager, Utah State Health Department

Charles Hawley has served as a research consultant in the Utah Department of Health, Office of Health Care Statistics (OHCS) for the last four years. He is the OHCS Analytics Team Lead and Cycle III Grant Manager working on analytics development and price transparency.

Kathy Hines

Director of Data Compliance & Support, Massachusetts Center for Health Information & Analysis

Myron Hepner

Director of Information and Data Management, Medical Center Information Technology (MCIT), University of Michigan Health System

Myron Hepner directs the strategic and operational activities of the Information and Data Management division in MCIT, including the Michigan Data Collaborative, Health Information Exchange interfaces, the enterprise-wide Health System Data Warehouse resource, the EMR-based enterprise-wide Reporting Teams for clinical, business, and research reporting, the Honest Broker Office reporting for clinical trials research, EMR configuration to support current clinical trial research activities, and Enterprise Content Management System imaging and document management. He has over 20 years of experience leading information technology teams in the healthcare industry. Myron holds a Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree from the University of Michigan.

Sam Hohmann

Principal Consultant, University HealthSystem Consortium

Dr. Hohmann facilitates member engagement in data resources provided by the Clinical Data and Informatics enterprise. His focus is on encouraging the use of UHC data for medical and health services research. He extracts, analyzes, and summarizes data for and in collaboration with UHC members' medical and health services researchers. He has extensive experience integrating multiple data sets submitted to UHC by its members – operations data, hospital discharge detail, core measures, patient satisfaction, charge detail, faculty practice billing, and benchmarking baseline datasets. He and his colleagues present the results of this integrated analysis to members and at national meetings as well as in scientific journals. Dr. Hohmann also provides advice on development of UHC's integrated data

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environment, serves as an end-user in testing new software performance, conducts audits of internal data bases, and contributes to UHC's drive for internal data quality. He planned and delivered quarterly Analysts Forum educational programs targeted for UHC staff analysts for 8 years.

Pat Jones

Health Care Project Director, Vermont Green Mountain Care Board

Pat Jones has worked in Vermont's healthcare sector over the past 25 years for the state's home health industry, largest commercial insurer, health insurance regulatory agency, and healthcare reform programs (including the Vermont Blueprint for Health and the Green Mountain Care Board's Payment Reform team). She has overseen programs related to managed care regulation, performance measurement, public reporting of hospital and health plan quality measures, and payment reform implementation.

Robin L. Kelly

U.S. House Representative for Illinois' 2nd Congressional District

Representative Kelly is a member of seven House Caucuses, including the Congressional Black Caucus, the Women's Caucus and the General Aviation Caucus. She currently chairs the CBC's Healthcare Braintrust, which works to address health disparities and improve health outcomes for all Americans. A particular area of focus for the Congresswoman as Health Braintrust Chair is dental care as she strives to increase oral health care opportunities for children, senior citizens and residents of underserved communities.

Amy Kinner

Health Services Researcher, Onpoint Health Data

Amy Kinner, MS, is a Health Services Researcher at Onpoint Health Data, where she supports the analytic needs of large employers and state programs, providing expertise in program evaluation, healthcare cost analyses, and HEDIS quality measures. Amy leads Onpoint's efforts in linking clinical and claims databases for Vermont's Accountable Care Organization reporting. Prior to joining Onpoint, Amy was a researcher/epidemiologist for the University of New England's Center for Health Policy, Planning, and Research and a policy analyst/epidemiologist at the US Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, DC.

Marilyn Schlein Kramer

Deputy Executive Director, Massachusetts Center for Health Information and Analysis

Marilyn Schlein Kramer is Deputy Executive Director at the Massachusetts Center for Health Information and Analysis ("CHIA"). CHIA's mission is to monitor the Massachusetts health care system and to provide reliable information and meaningful analysis for those seeking to improve health care quality, affordability, access, and outcomes

Marilyn oversees use of the Massachusetts All Payer Claims Database ("MA APCD") which receives claim-level data on a monthly basis from more than 80 public and private payers and supports the work of multiple state agencies and numerous researchers. She coordinates CHIA's work with the Massachusetts Health Connector to operate a state-specific risk adjustment program under the Affordable Care Act as well as CHIA's work with the Massachusetts Division of Insurance to use the MA APCD to support rate review. She serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Health Data Organizations (NAHDO).

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Marilyn was previously President and CEO of DxCG (now VeriskHealth) and Executive Director of the Partnership for Healthcare Excellence. She received her MBA from the Booth School of Business of the University of Chicago and her BA in Economics from Harvard University where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Richard Kronick

Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

On August 19, 2013, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced Dr. Richard Kronick as the new director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Dr. Kronick joined the Department in January 2010 as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, overseeing the Office of Health Policy. In that role, he conducted and coordinated research on policies relating to public health; health care delivery; health insurance; and health care financing programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, State Children's Health Insurance Program, and private insurance coverage. His work, and that of the Office of Health Policy under his leadership, was integral to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Additionally, his team provided insight and information critical to the effort to improve the health of the Nation. Prior to joining HHS, Dr. Kronick conducted health policy research in academia as well as in Federal and State government, including serving as Director of Policy and Reimbursement for the Medicaid Division of the Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare and, most recently, as a Professor and Chief of the Division of Health Care Sciences in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at the University of California, San Diego.

Denise Love

Executive Director, National Association of Health Data Organizations

Denise Love served as the Director of the Office of Health Data Analysis, Utah Department of Health and established Utah's hospital reporting (inpatient, Emergency Department, Ambulatory Surgery) and the first HMO Performance Reporting System. As Co-founder and Co-leader of the All-Payer Claims Databases Council, Ms. Love is leveraging decades of state health data systems implementation and works with the APCD team to help states with all aspects of APCD implementation. Ms. Love has served on numerous national committees, including the National Academies of Science, National Research Council's Panel on DHHS Collection of Race and Ethnicity Data's report, "Eliminating Health Disparities: Measurement and Data Needs". In 2015, Ms. Love was appointed to a three-year term on the National Committee for Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS), a statutory public advisory committee to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on information policy, health data standards, population health advancements, and promotion of policies to ensure public trust. Ms. Love has a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing and a Masters of Business Administration in Health Care Administration. When not working on health data issues, she is improving her mountain trail running and powder skiing skills.

Jim Lucht

Informatics Manager, Rhode Island Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner

Jim began his work with the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner's Office in April 2014. As Informatics Manager, Jim helps manage the Rhode Island All Payer Claims Database and serves as liaison to the State's patient-centered medical home initiative. In his previous position as Director of The Providence Plan's Information Group, Jim oversaw a small staff of public policy specialists and web developers working on a variety of data analysis and visualization projects around public health,

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education, community development, and public safety. Jim has partnered with many state agencies as well as national non-profit organizations such as The Urban Institute, the Brookings Institution, and The Annie E. Casey Foundation. In his free time he restores antique Volvos.

Michael Lundberg

Executive Director, Virginia Health Information

Michael comes to you today as Executive Director for Virginia Health Information (VHI), a nonprofit health care information company serving businesses, consumers, providers and others. Health information he has produced includes consumer guides, efficiency reports, financial comparisons, health outcomes measurement and related information at www.vhi.org. His efforts also support public health evaluation and hospital evaluation tools under contract for pay-for-performance programs in 14 states.

Public Data systems he has created from VHI include Virginia's inpatient and outpatient data, Certificate of Need, Physician profile system, Psychiatric Bed Registry and All Payer Claims Database (APCD). Other leadership positions with nonprofit organizations include President of the National Association of Health Data Organizations (NAHDO), Centralized Credentials Verification Service, Inc.(CCVS), Virginia Chamber of Commerce Health Care Executive Committee, and Virginia Center for Health Innovation workgroups.

Jonathan Mathieu

Director of Data and Research, Center for Improving Value in Health Care

In this capacity, he is responsible for providing quantitative and analytical support for CIVHC's strategic initiatives. Prior to joining CIVHC, Jonathan was employed as a Water Resource Economist at The Nature Conservancy in Boulder, Colorado. Dr. Mathieu also served as an Economist at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration where he provided analytical support for FDA policy initiatives affecting prescription drug, biologic product and medical device manufacturers, as well as for the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA). Jonathan was also employed as an Assistant Professor of Public Policy at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Dr. Mathieu holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Economics from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and a B.S. in Applied Mathematical Economics from Oswego State University.

Susan Meldazy

Project Director, Health Care Price Transparency Project, Washington State Office of Financial Management

Sue Meldazy is the Project Director for the Health Care Price Transparency Project that is sponsored by the Washington State Office of Financial Management and funded by Cycle III and Cycle IV grants from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The project is tasked with building the Washington state All Payer Claims Database (APCD) and developing consumer products. Sue is responsible for general project oversight and is currently working on developing the APCD rules and managing stakeholders. Sue is an international consultant based out of Waterloo, Ontario Canada. She has worked on projects in the United States, Canada and Scotland and in multiple sectors including health care, government, oil and gas, and agriculture. Sue has a B.A. in Economics from the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA.

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Theresa Mendoza

Director of Quality, Business Intelligence, and Data Services, Dallas Fort Worth Hospital Council Education and Research Foundation

Theresa Mendoza has 24 years of management and director experience in healthcare information technology and informatics in the North Texas area hospital systems. She has served as a member of the Texas Health Services Authority Data Standards Task Force and Health Information Exchange Technical Advisory Team. Ms. Mendoza is currently serving on the Texas Healthcare Information Council Data Collection Workgroup, and North Texas Health Information and Quality Collaborative. Because of her experience with healthcare data she has presented at multiple regional and national conferences. Ms. Mendoza has also been an author in several white papers and recently published in the Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice. Her most recent project involves the blending of the Skilled Nursing MDS file with hospital discharge data. Finally, she implemented the Foundation's Regional Enterprise Master Patient Index to evaluate readmissions regionally between hospitals. She and her team are responsible for the development and implementation of robust analytics that allow participants to examine market share, hospital acquired conditions, ER utilization, physician data, community health, and readmissions utilizing hospital discharge data.

Patricia Merryweather

Executive Director, Telligen

Pat is Executive Director of Telligen where she directs the quality and patient safety programs for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in Illinois, Iowa, and Colorado. Pat directs the strategic results oriented quality improvement programs and initiatives to benefit all Medicare beneficiaries, dual eligibles, families, and the public with a focus on quality improvement in hospitals, nursing homes, home health, physician practices, and communities. The Medicare Quality Improvement program's focus is on efficiently and effectively providing the right care every time for every patient; disease prevention and management programs; and reducing health care disparities.

Prior to coming to Telligen, Pat served as the Senior Vice President with the Illinois Hospital Association where she developed and implemented the Quality Care Institute and COMPdata. Pat serves on several state, national, and international committees and boards. She routinely is a presenter at quality and community health meetings locally and globally.

Susan Nedza

Senior Vice President of Clinical Outcomes Management, MPA Healthcare Solutions

Dr. Nedza is Board-Certified in Emergency Medicine and in Clinical Informatics. She has served as the Chief Medical Officer of AIM Specialty Health (Anthem, Inc. Subsidiary), the Chief Medical Officer for Region V of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Vice President for Quality and Patient Safety at the American Medical Association (AMA), and as a Health Information Technology executive. Dr. Nedza is an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Feinberg School of Medicine of Northwestern University.

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Kathleen Nolan

Director of State Policy and Programs, National Association of Medicaid Directors

Kathleen Nolan joined the National Association of Medicaid Directors in May 2011. At NAMD, Ms. Nolan manages a portfolio of state policy and programmatic issues relevant to Medicaid directors. Prior to NAMD, Ms. Nolan worked for seven years as Director of the Health Division in the National Governors Association's Center for Best Practices. Ms. Nolan also previously held health policy positions with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and the Institute of Medicine. Before moving to Washington, Ms. Nolan served as a Program Specialist in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Kathleen received her M.P.H. from the George Washington University, and her B.A. in psychology from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota.

Alison Oelschlaeger

Senior Advisor, Office of Enterprise Data & Analytics, Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Allison Oelschlaeger is a Senior Advisor in the Office of Enterprise Data & Analytics (OEDA) at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). In this role, Allison focuses on improving access to CMS data and analytics for external data users. She also directs innovative Medicare, Medicaid/CHIP, and Marketplace data analysis and research. Before joining CMS, Allison worked at the Lewin Group where she specialized in program evaluation and data analysis, particularly related to care for children and people with mental illness. She is a graduate of Georgetown University.