Presenters

Primary Care and Public Health Partnerships in the Era of COVID-19:
Collaborating to Improve Preparedness, Build Resilience, and Address Inequities

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E. Oscar Alleyne

E. Oscar Alleyne, Dr.P.H., M.P.H., is the chief of programs and services for the National Association of County and City Health Officials, where he oversees a $28 million portfolio of programs, along with its membership and meetings services. In this role, he directs the implementation of programs and the promotion and diversification of funding and assists in raising the association's profile through external engagement and partnership development to advance the association's mission and the success of the country's 3,000 local health departments. Alleyne began his career in governmental public health, designing software used as an expert system in guiding responses to adverse water quality events for the New York State Health Department. He joined the Rockland County Health Department, New York where he served as director of epidemiology and public health planning and responded to and mitigated several major emerging health issues, including West Nile virus, anthrax, smallpox, monkeypox, H1N1, botulism, Middle East respiratory syndrome–related coronavirus, Ebola, and others. He has experience as a planning section chief for the Disaster Medical Assistance Team (NY4) under the federal National Disaster Medical System. Alleyne is the past president of the board of directors of the New York State Public Health Association, the past president of the Alpha Gamma Chapter of the Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health, and the immediate past chair of the epidemiology section of the American Public Health Association. He is a strong community-focused and innovative professional with a doctor of public health degree focused in health policy and management from New York Medical College and a master of public health degree in environmental health and epidemiology from the University at Albany.

David Meyers

David Meyers, M.D., is a board-certified family physician who began serving as Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) acting director on January 12, 2021. He leads the agency's mission of producing evidence to make health care safer, higher quality, more accessible, equitable, and affordable, and he works within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and with other federal, state, and local partners to make sure that the evidence is understood and used. Since February 2020, he has served as the agency's deputy director, leading many of AHRQ's strategic planning activities and co-leading the development of AHRQ's National Nursing Home COVID-19 Action Network. Before his appointment as deputy director, he served as AHRQ's first chief physician and directed EvidenceNOW, its $110 million initiative to help primary care practices improve the heart health of their patients through quality improvement support and the implementation of new evidence. During his more than 15 years with AHRQ, Meyers has directed the agency's Center for Primary Care, Prevention, and Clinical Partnerships and established its Center for Evidence and Practice Improvement. He also directed the agency's Practice-Based Research Network initiatives and served as the acting scientific director for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. Before joining AHRQ in 2004, he practiced family medicine, including maternity care, in a community health center in southeast Washington, DC, and directed the Georgetown University Department of Family Medicine's practice-based research network, CAPRICORN. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and completed his family medicine residency at Providence Hospital/Georgetown University. After residency, he completed fellowship training in primary care health policy and research in the Department of Family Medicine at Georgetown University. In 2019, he was elected a member of the National Academy of Medicine.

Jewel Mullen

Jewel Mullen, M.D., M.P.H., M.P.A., is associate dean for health equity at Dell Medical School and an associate professor in the school's population health and internal medicine departments. She also serves as director of health equity at Ascension Seton. Mullen served as the principal deputy assistant secretary for health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Before this, she was commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health, director of community health and prevention at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and medical director of the Baystate Mason Square Neighborhood Health Center. Her career has spanned clinical, research, teaching, and administrative roles focused on improving the health of all people, especially those who are underserved. She is recognized nationally and internationally as a leader in building effective community-based chronic disease prevention programs and for her commitment to improving individual and population health by strengthening coordination between community, public health, and health care systems. Mullen received her bachelor's degree and master of public health degree from Yale University, where she also completed a post-doctoral fellowship in psychosocial epidemiology. She graduated from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, where she was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha national medical honor society, and completed her internal medicine residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She also holds a master of public administration degree from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Diane Rittenhouse

Diane Rittenhouse, M.D., M.P.H., is a family physician and expert at the intersection of social policy and clinical quality. She is nationally recognized for her research on innovative ways to organize and deliver primary care and her ability to translate this research into policy. Her work focuses on Mathematica's state and federal health assessment portfolio related to physician education and practice. Rittenhouse has substantial mixed-methods evaluation experience, having led many studies that have contributed to health care reform discussions. She was principal investigator for the evaluation of federal efforts to restore, expand, and improve primary care services in greater New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina and co-investigator on multiple large national studies of physician practices. Most recently, she was the principal investigator on a project to identify policy options for strengthening graduate medical education in California. Rittenhouse has extensive experience in the patient-centered medical home model, accountable communities for health, health information technology, and process evaluations, among others. Before joining Mathematica in 2020, Rittenhouse served as professor of family medicine and health policy at the University of California, San Francisco, where she mentored medical students, residents, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty in health policy, health care management, and health services research. She also developed a health systems and policy curriculum for the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. Rittenhouse has published in renowned journals, including the Journal of the American Medical Association and the New England Journal of Medicine, and she has been cited in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times, and USA Today. She was also invited to speak to members of Congress at a bipartisan congressional health policy retreat in 2010. Rittenhouse received her M.D. from the University of California, Davis, and her master of public health degree with an emphasis in health policy and management from the University of California, Berkeley. Before her medical training, she worked for the California Statewide Office of Health Planning and Development and for the deputy assistant secretary for health in Washington, DC.