

Primary Care's Critical Role in Advancing Health Equity

March 2023

Speakers



Sinsi Hernández-Cancio, National Partnership for Women & Families

Sinsi Hernández-Cancio is the vice president for health justice at the National Partnership for Women & Families. She is a national health and health care equity policy and advocacy thought leader with extensive experience spanning the government, labor, and non-profit arenas, dedicated to advancing equal opportunity for women and families of color and advocating for better health care access and quality for all. Sinsi believes our shared prosperity depends on transforming our health care system to meet the needs of our rapidly evolving nation so that it provides excellent, comprehensive, culturally centered and affordable care for every single person, family and community, which requires dismantling structural racism and other systemic inequities.



Hoangmai (Mai) Pham, Institute for Exceptional Care

Hoangmai (Mai) H. Pham is president of the Institute for Exceptional Care, a non-profit dedicated to transforming health care for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Dr. Pham is a general internist and national health policy leader. She was vice president at Anthem where she was responsible for value-based care initiatives. Prior to Anthem, Dr. Pham served as chief innovation officer at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, where she was a founding official, and the architect of foundational programs on accountable care organizations and primary care. Dr. Pham has published extensively on provider payment policy and its intersection with health disparities, quality performance, provider behavior, and market trends. She serves on the board of the Coalition to Transform Advanced Care, and numerous advisory bodies including for the National Academy of Medicine, the National Advisory Council for the Agency on Healthcare Research and Quality, and the Maryland Primary Care Program. Dr. Pham is most proud of mothering two sons, one of whom is autistic. Her clinical experience is grounded in primary care for underserved populations. She earned her A.B. from Harvard University, her M.D. from Temple University, and her M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins University where she was also a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar.



Kathryn Phillips, California Health Care Foundation

Kathryn E. Phillips is the associate director for the California Health Care Foundation's Improving Access team, which works to improve access to coverage and care for Californians with low incomes. She also leads programming to improve health equity by fostering greater investment in primary care systemwide. Prior to joining CHCF, Phillips directed quality improvement projects at Qualis Health (now Comagine), including the landmark Safety Net Medical Home Initiative. She also worked at the National Business Group on Health where she built public-private partnerships to create evidence-based purchasing guidelines and workplace health programs to advance clinical preventive services, maternal and child health, and behavioral health. Phillips holds a bachelor's degree in anthropology from the University of Oregon and an M.P.H. from the University of Michigan.



Diane Rittenhouse, Mathematica

Diane Rittenhouse is a senior fellow at Mathematica and professor of family medicine and health policy at the University of California, San Francisco. She has two decades of experience researching primary care organization, delivery, finance, and workforce—and translating that research into policy. Rittenhouse has substantial mixed-methods evaluation experience, having led many studies that contributed to discussions on health care reform. She has published in leading journals, including the Journal of the American Medical Association and the New England Journal of Medicine, and has been cited in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times, and USA Today. She practiced family medicine for 10 years in a community-based faculty practice at the University of California, San Francisco. Rittenhouse received her M.D. from the University of California, Davis, and her M.P.H 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 the U.S. deputy assistant secretary for health in Washington, DC.



Judith Steinberg, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Judith Steinberg is a senior advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Health and lead for the Health and Human Services Initiative to Strengthen Primary Health Care. She served as the chief medical officer (CMO) of the Health Resources and Services Administration's Bureau of Primary Health Care and the CMO at the Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy. Dr. Steinberg was deputy CMO and senior director of the Commonwealth Medicine Office of Healthcare Innovation and Quality at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. There she supported Massachusetts' health care reform, including primary care transformation. Dr. Steinberg practiced primary care and infectious disease medicine at community health centers and safety net hospitals for nearly 30 years. Dr. Steinberg was an associate professor of medicine and family medicine at UMass Medical School and assistant professor of medicine at Boston University School of Medicine. She earned her M.D. from the University of Texas and an M.P.H. from Harvard University. She was a Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University fellow in minority health policy.

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