

Speakers

**RDML Richardae Araojo, PharmD, MS
Associate Commissioner for Minority Health, Director, Office of Minority Health and Health Equity, U.S. Food and Drug Administration**



Rear Admiral Richardae Araojo, PharmD, MS, serves as the Associate Commissioner for Minority Health and Director of the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In this role, RDML Araojo provides leadership, oversight, and direction on minority health and health disparity matters for the Agency. RDML Araojo previously served as the Director of the Office of Medical Policy Initiatives in FDA’s Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER), where she led a variety of broad-based medical and clinical policy initiatives to improve the science and efficiency of clinical trials and enhance professional and patient labeling. RDML Araojo joined FDA in 2003, where she held several positions in CDER. RDML Araojo received her doctoral degree in Pharmacy from Virginia Commonwealth University, completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency at University of Maryland, and earned a master’s degree in Pharmacy Regulation and Policy from the University of Florida.

**Kate de Lisle
Associate Principal, Payment & Delivery Transformation, Leavitt Partners, an HMA Company**



Kate de Lisle is an associate principal and subject matter expert in the Leavitt Partners Strategy Practice where she leads the firm’s research team dedicated to understanding trends and developments in the movement to value. For over eight years, Kate has overseen Leavitt Partners’ tracking of public and private alternative payment model (APM) activity, monitoring participation trends, studying the policies and market forces governing these models, as well as the subsequent delivery transformation efforts associated with high-value care. She maintains research relationships with provider leaders across the country, frequently conducting interviews with payer and provider executives and frontline clinicians regarding their strategies and challenges in the transition to value-based payment. Kate uses her APM expertise to support clients of all types on projects related to payment and delivery transformation, as well as research publications, speaking engagements, and trainings on the topic. Before joining Leavitt Partners, she worked in the healthcare industry clinically and administratively, including with Intermountain Healthcare. Kate earned a bachelor’s degree in Health Science from Brigham Young University.

**Robert Flemming, Lt. Col., USAF, MSC
Commander, 459th Aerospace Medicine Squadron (AMDS), JB Andrews, MD**



Lt. Col. Rob Flemming, PhD, is the Commander of the 459th Aerospace Medicine Squadron (AMDS), JB Andrews, MD, and is responsible for directing, organizing, training, and equipping more than 1,300 Reservists across JB Andrews. Before this position, he was Commander and Director of Operations of the 459th Aeromedical Staging Squadron (ASTS), and IMA to the AF Reserve Command Surgeon (SG), responsible for supporting medical readiness training and TRICARE healthcare operations of 7,000 medical personnel across Air Force Reserve Command and ensuring their readiness to perform medical missions worldwide. As G-Series US Air Force Lieutenant Colonel and Commander of 280+ personnel in both Aerospace Medicine and Aeromedical Staging Squadrons, and as Joint Task Force (JTF) Deputy Commander of SOCOM's TRICARE healthcare delivery operations, he has executed on several breakthrough innovations demonstrating best practices to save lives and improve efficiency and quality of care nationally and internationally through in-flight surgeries, joint operations, and integrated deterrence using a whole-of-government approach that established a direct partnership between DoD and the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS).

Dr. Flemming's expertise spans TRICARE, VA, CMS, the Public Health Service Act, and the health care provisions of the Social Security Act. He currently serves as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Director of Strategic Innovation, Evaluation, and Communications and CCSQ's Senior Leadership Policy Advisor for the CMS Administrator's Roadmap on Medicare & Medicaid APM model development & national expansion. Dr. Flemming earned his PhD in Health Services Research from the University of Florida and both a master's in Business Administration and a master's in Healthcare Administration from New York State University.

**Yasmeen Long, MA
Director, FasterCures, Milken Institute**



Yasmeen Long is a director at FasterCures, a center of the Milken Institute, where she leads the Health Equity and Diversity in Clinical Trials portfolio. Her expertise lies within health equity and disparities, health outcomes, policy, clinical research, patient engagement, and social determinants of health. Prior to joining FasterCures, she co-directed the Health Policy Fellowships and Leadership Programs at the National Academy of Medicine. These fellowships were designed for early- to mid-career national and international health science scholars. She also served as a program officer at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), where she executed strategic objectives to advance patient and stakeholder engagement in patient-centered outcomes research. At PCORI, she built key relationships with academic researchers, health-care providers, patient advocates, and policy stakeholders. Prior to PCORI, she directed global health policy programs in the US, Asia, and the Middle East at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public

Health in collaboration with the Bloomberg Philanthropies and the World Health Organization. Earlier in her career, she managed research programs at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and the Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School in the following areas: biomedical research, chronic and infectious diseases, and health disparities in patient care. Yasmeen earned a master’s degree in sociology and women’s health from Suffolk University and a bachelor’s degree in health sciences from Howard University.

Carla Rodriguez-Watson, PhD, MPH
Director of Research, Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA



Carla Rodriguez-Watson, PhD, MPH, is the Director of Research for the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA. Dr Rodriguez-Watson is focused on continuously developing and enhancing a portfolio of work that leverages real-world data and experiences to inform and conduct clinical and post-market drug safety and effectiveness studies. Projects include those focused on developing and advancing frameworks and tools to systematically describe data sources and methods for use in pre and post-market studies of product safety and effectiveness; as well as the the Innovation in Medical Evidence, Development and Surveillance (IMEDS) Program – where such tools can be leveraged. IMEDS leverages a distributed network and tools developed by the FDA’s Sentinel initiative to design and execute post-market drug safety studies in a network of 9 healthcare systems representing over 111 M persons. Dr Rodriguez-Watson brings her extensive background in public health surveillance and health outcomes research to this work. She earned her doctoral degree in Epidemiology from the University of Washington School of Public Health, her master’s degree in Public Health from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, and her bachelor’s degree from Rutgers University.

Leo J. Russo, PhD
Head of Global Medical Epidemiology, Pfizer, Inc.



Leo J. Russo, PhD, has been a practicing epidemiologist for nearly 30 years, with the last 23 in the pharmaceutical industry. He has spent time in big (GSK, J&J, Pfizer) and mid-size (Shire) pharma and has brought the best practices from each stop into his current role. Leo leads Pfizer’s Global Medical Epidemiology group within the Worldwide Medical and Safety organization. His academic training began in the field of statistics, in which he holds a bachelor’s degree from The Ohio State University. Leo went on to complete his master’s and doctoral degrees in Epidemiology at Case Western Reserve School of Medicine. He believes epidemiology is a highly creative field and a catalyst for innovation. It is a mindset and perspective that can be leveraged across many areas such as drug candidate selection, drug safety, machine learning, digital health, clinical trial diversity, health equity, and health systems quality.

Moderators

Amy P. Abernethy, MD, PhD

President of Product Development and Chief Medical Officer, Verily



Amy P. Abernethy, MD, PhD, is the President of Product Development and Chief Medical Officer at Verily, where she leads teams in the development and delivery of solutions that bridge the gap between clinical research and care. Before joining Verily, Dr. Abernethy was Principal Deputy Commissioner and Acting Chief Information Officer of the US Food & Drug Administration. Prior roles include serving as CMO/CSO of Flatiron Health and multiple roles at Duke University, where she was Professor of Medicine. Dr. Abernethy went to the University of Pennsylvania and then Duke University Medical School and received her doctoral degree from Flinders University in Australia.

Susan C. Winckler, RPh, Esq.

CEO, Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA



Susan C. Winckler, RPh, Esq., is CEO of the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA, the non-profit organization created by Congress to advance the mission of the FDA. Prior to accepting the Foundation post, she served as President of Leavitt Partners Solutions, a healthcare strategy firm founded by Gov. Michael O. Leavitt, former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Winckler directly advised C-suite executives of a wide range of organizations on public policy and regulation, business strategy, investments, and other major business matters.

As Chief of Staff for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (2007-2009), she managed the Commissioner's Office, served both Republican and Democratic commissioners as their senior-most staff adviser, analyzed complex policy challenges and represented FDA with myriad government entities and external stakeholders. Her earlier career service included more than a decade at the American Pharmacists Association in a series of positions of increasing responsibility.