



Cardiovascular Standing Committee

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Mary George, MD, MSPH, FACS, FAHA

Senior Medical Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention

Mary George, MD, MSPH, FACS is the senior Medical Officer for the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention at the CDC. She is the Division's lead for quality improvement and represents the Division with several cardiovascular disease clinically related projects and national organizations. Her interests are in quality improvement, and health services research and clinical preventive services for stroke and cardiovascular disease. She has had experience is developing National Quality Forum (NQF)-endorsed clinical quality measures, has served on several quality measure technical expert and advisory panels, and was co-chair of the previous NQF Steering Committee for Cardiovascular performance measures.

Thomas Kottke, MD, MSPH

Medical Director for Population Health, Consulting Cardiologist, HealthPartners

Thomas E. Kottke, MD, MSPH, Medical Director for Population Health at HealthPartners, is also a clinical cardiologist in HealthPartners Medical Group, an epidemiologist, and a health services researcher at the HealthPartners Institute for Education and Research in Minneapolis. He holds the academic rank of Professor of Medicine at the University of Minnesota. His primary professional goals are to 1) understand how to help individuals increase well-being, delay the onset of disability, and extend healthy life expectancy by adopting healthy lifestyles; and 2) implement evidence-informed programs that improve the health and well-being of patients, health plan members and members of the community.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sana Al-Khatib, MD, MHS

Associate Professor of Medicine, Duke University Medical Center

Dr. Sana Al-Khatib is an Associate Professor of Medicine, a board-certified clinical electrophysiologist and an experienced clinical researcher in cardiac arrhythmias. Her clinical expertise is in sudden cardiac death prevention and implantable cardiac devices. Her research expertise is in clinical trials, outcomes research, quality improvement and development of performance measures. She has 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals and is an Associate

Editor for the American Heart Journal. She serves on multiple committees including the Heart Rhythm Society's Board of Trustees, Health Policy committee, Legislative subcommittee, and the Measure Development Task Force (as Chair).

Carol Allred, BA

Immediate Past Chair, Board of Directors, WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease

Carol had a major heart attack in 2003 and attended WomenHeart's Science and Leadership Symposium at the Mayo Clinic. She was elected to the Board of Directors in 2005, and served as Chair from 2008 to 2012. Carol is a spokesperson for the HHS "Make the Call, Don't Miss a Beat", Million Hearts and a member of the Texas Cardiovascular and Stroke Partnership Steering Committee. She trained as a patient representative for the FDA's Division on Cardiac Devices. Carol is a CPA and a Magna cum Laude graduate from Southern Methodist University and the University Of Oklahoma School Of Nursing.

Linda Briggs, DNP

Assistant Professor, George Washington University, School of Nursing

Linda Briggs, DNP received her doctoral degree from the George Washington University in 2010. Her research focuses on cardiovascular disease, particularly among women. She has published on a variety of cardiovascular topics, and received an American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award in 1989. In the care delivery arena, Ms. Briggs has served in a variety of roles, including cardiac surgical program coordinator and nurse practitioner. In her current role, as assistant professor, at the George Washington University School of Nursing, she prepares students to become nurse practitioners.

Leslie Cho, MD

Section Head, Preventive Cardiology and Rehabilitation, Cleveland Clinic

Leslie Cho is the Section head of Preventive Cardiology and Cardiac Rehabilitation and the Director of the Women's Cardiovascular Center at the Cleveland Clinic. She is a unique combination of Preventive and Interventional cardiologist. She has published numerous articles and co-authored several books in cardiology and is on steering committee of several large randomized control studies. She currently serves on the AHA council on Clinical Cardiology Exercise, Cardiac Rehabilitation, and Prevention Committee and has served in the past on ACC Peripheral Vascular Disease committee. She has also served on NQF Cardiovascular endorsement maintenance committee in the past.

Joseph Cleveland, MD

Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery & Surgical Director for Adult Cardiac Transplantation/Mechanical Cardiac Assist Devices, University of Colorado Denver

Dr. Joseph Cleveland is a Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Surgical Director for Adult Cardiac Transplantation/Mechanical Cardiac Assist Devices at the University of Colorado Denver. He is also the former Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgical Services at the Denver Veterans Administration Medical Center. Dr. Cleveland's clinical interests include cardiovascular conditions,

off-pump coronary artery surgery, adult heart and lung transplantation, artificial heart, and valve reconstruction/replacement. His research interests concern myocardial responses to cardiopulmonary bypass and obligatory ischemia associated with heart surgery. Dr. Cleveland has authored/co-authored over 120 publications and 15 book chapters. Dr. Cleveland is a member of numerous national professional associations. He serves on a number of STS committees, specifically the Task Force on Quality Measurement, responsible for the development of risk models, and the Task Force on Quality Initiatives which works to provide quality improvement tools/resources to STS members.

Michael Crouch, MD, MSPH, FAAFP

Research Director and Quality Improvement Program Director, Memorial Family Medicine Residency Program and Associate Clinical Professor of Family Medicine, Texas A & M University School of Medicine

Dr. Crouch has extensive speaking and publishing on hypercholesterolemia and heart disease prevention, weight management, pre-diabetes, and quality improvement. Dr. Crouch's experience includes the Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship in Academic Family Medicine at the University of Missouri, the Clinical Scientist Training Program at Baylor College of Medicine and serving as the residency program director at Baylor College of Medicine for 18 years.

Elizabeth DeLong, PhD

Professor and Chair, Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Duke University Medical Center

Dr. DeLong is Professor and Chair, Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Duke University Medical Center. Her activities have included: Study Section, Healthcare Technology and Decision Sciences, AHRQ (1999-2003) Steering Committee, Scientific Forum on Assessment of Healthcare Quality in Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke, AHA (1999-2007) Composite Technical Advisory Panel (TAP), NQF, National Voluntary Consensus Standards for Hospital Care: Additional Priorities (2006- 2007), Composite Measure Steering Committee, NQF, (2007 - 2009), ACC/AHA Task Force on Performance Measures (2007 – 2010), The Joint Commission: Development of Risk Adjusted Outcome Measures in the EHR Environment Conference (2012), NQF Composite Measure Framework Assessment Expert Panel, Co-Chair (2012-2013).

Ellen Hillegass, PT, EdD, CCS, FAACVPR, FAPTA

American Physical Therapy Association

Dr. Ellen Hillegass is a longstanding member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) with over 20 years of clinical experience with a focus on cardiovascular care, with APTA board certification in cardiovascular and pulmonary clinical specialty. She currently holds position of Adjunct Professor at Mercer University in Atlanta in the Department of Physical Therapy, at Touro University in Las Vegas, NV and at Western Carolina, NC. Ellen is also the President and CEO of Cardiopulmonary Specialists, a private consulting firm that provides consulting and education on cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation.

Judd Hollander, MD, FACEP

Associate Dean, Strategic Health Initiatives, Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Professor, Vice Chair of Finance and Healthcare Enterprises, Department of Emergency Medicine, Thomas Jefferson University

Judd E. Hollander, MD, is Associate Dean for Strategic Health Initiatives at Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University and Professor and Vice Chair of Finance and Healthcare Enterprises in the Department of Emergency Medicine. He graduated from New York University Medical School in 1986, completed an Internal Medicine Residency and an Emergency Medicine Residency. His research interests include risk stratification and treatment of patients with potential ACS and CHF and cocaine associated cardiovascular complications. Dr. Hollander has published over 400 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters and editorials. Dr. Hollander is a past President of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine and past member of the SAEM Board of Directors. He is currently a Deputy Editor for the Annals of Emergency Medicine and a reviewer for NEJM, JAMA, Circulation, JACC as well as many other journals. Dr. Hollander was awarded the ACEP Award for Outstanding Research and the SAEM Leadership Award.

Thomas James, MD

Chief Medical Officer, Baptist Health Plan and Baptist Health Community Care

Thomas James, III, MD, is the Chief Medical Officer at Baptist Health Plan and Baptist Health Community Care. In this capacity he is the population health lead for Baptist Health, a state-wide system of hospitals, home health, long term care, and a health plan. Dr. James has gained experience with Commercial, Medicare and Medicaid health plans through his career. He has served as medical director for such health companies as HealthAmerica, Maxicare, Sentara, Traveler's Health Network, Anthem and AmeriHealth Caritas Family of Companies. Board certified in internal medicine and pediatrics, Dr. James chaired councils at NQF and AQA. He serves on work groups for the Measurement Application Partnership and AMA-PCPI.

Joel Marrs, Pharm.D., FNLA, BCPS (AQ Cardiology), CLS

Assistant Professor, Department of Clinical Pharmacy, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists

Joel C. Marrs, Pharm.D., FNLA, BCPS (AQ-Cardiology), CLS, is Assistant Professor in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy at the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado. He is also a clinical pharmacy specialist with Denver Health Medical Center in an internal medicine clinic, where he focuses on cardiovascular and metabolic pharmacotherapy. He is a board-certified pharmacotherapy specialist with added qualifications in cardiology and a clinical lipid specialist recognized by the Accreditation Council for Clinical Lipidology. He is a fellow of the National Lipid Association. His ongoing research is in the area of optimizing pharmacotherapy for reducing cardiovascular risk and improving goal attainment rates, with a specific focus in the area of resistant hypertension. His clinical practice and research also focus on the optimization of transition of care from the inpatient to outpatient settings.

Gerard R. Martin, MD

Senior Vice President, HLK, Medical Director, Global Services, Children's National Health System

Dr. Martin is the Senior Vice President of the Center for Heart, Lung and Kidney Disease; and, Medical Director for Global Services. He has been in practice at Children's National Health System since 1986. Dr. Martin was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics, with tenure, at the George Washington University School of Medicine in 1995 and was the Chief of Cardiology from 1997 to 2009. He was named the C. Richard Beyda Professor of Cardiology in 2007.

Kristi Mitchell, MPH

Senior Vice President, Avalere Health, LLC

Ms. Mitchell is a Senior Vice President at Avalere Health, overseeing its evidence translation and implementation practice. She leads efforts to support the use of data for strategic decision-making across multiple sectors and to develop strategic partnerships for quality measure development. As the Chief Science Officer for the American College of Cardiology (ACC), she provided methodological and scientific direction for multiple ACC initiatives including the National Cardiovascular Data Registry. She also led the development of quality metrics, performance measures, and participant feedback reports using data from the registry.

George Philippides, MD

Chief of Cardiology, Newton-Wellesly Hospital

Dr. George Philippides received his undergraduate degree from Yale University. He then attended Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York where he graduated with Honors in clinical cardiology research. Dr. Philippides completed his Internal Medicine Residency training at Boston City Hospital and completed his Cardiology Fellowship at Boston University. He was a staff cardiologist at Boston Medical Center since 1994. Dr. Philippides is presently the Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs and Chief Quality Officer for the Boston Medical Center Cardiovascular section. From 1997 to 2008, Dr. Philippides served as the Director of the Boston Medical Center Coronary Care Unit. In this position Dr. Philippides played a major role in creating clinical guidelines that have greatly improved the care for patients admitted to Boston Medical Center with acute coronary syndromes. These guidelines have been published in several hard copy and electronic formats and have been used by many hospitals in Massachusetts. Dr. Philippides' work in the area of clinical guidelines has been cited by the American Heart Association.

Dr. Philippides has also been an active teacher. He was the course director for Boston University Medical School's second year Cardiology course and a busy lecturer within the Boston Medical Center's Internal Medicine program for over 15 years. He has received multiple teaching awards during his career at BMC including 2004 Educator of the Year in Clinical Medicine Award for BU School of Medicine. Dr. Philippides has performed charitable work with the American Heart Association for over 15 years. He organized a team of Boston University Medical students and trained them to go into the community, giving lectures on the risk factors for cardiovascular disease and how to promote heart health. In 2005 Dr. Philippides received the Wendy Kline Award for outstanding achievement in furthering the mission of the American Heart Association. He has served as President of the Boston Chapter of the American Heart Association and is presently a member of the Founder's Affiliate. In July 2014 Dr Philippides moved to Newton-Wellesley Hospital where he is now the Chief of the Division of Cardiology and Director of the

Elfers Cardiovascular Center.

Nicholas Ruggiero, MD FACP FACC FSCAI FSVM FCPP

Director of Structural Heart Disease and Non-Coronary Interventions, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

Nicholas Ruggiero, MD, serves as Director of Structural Heart Disease and Non-Coronary Interventions at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. He is also the head of the TAVR program and the Jefferson Heart Institute Vascular Laboratory. He has served on hospital and society scientific and quality committees, and has published and presented extensively in the area of interventional cardiology. He is board certified in internal medicine, cardiology, echocardiography, nuclear cardiology and interventional cardiology, and is a fellow of ACP, ACC, SCAI, and SVM.

Jason Spangler, MD, MPH, FACPM

Executive Director, Medical Policy, Amgen, Inc.

Dr. Spangler is Executive Director, Medical Policy at Amgen, Inc. He serves as the lead in representing the company on healthcare quality issues and on clinical matters in engagement with Federal payer agencies in the U.S. Prior to Amgen, Dr. Spangler was the chief medical officer at Partnership for Prevention-a national, non-profit organization- providing medical and public health expertise on program activities and policy development. He is a member of the NQF Population Health Steering Committee and the NCQA Cardiovascular Measurement Advisory Panel, and has been a reviewer for the AHRQ Prevention/Care Management Technical Assistance Center.

Henry Ting, MD, MBA

Senior Vice President and Chief Quality Officer, New York- Presbyterian Hospital and Healthcare System

Dr. Henry Ting, a cardiologist and health services researcher, serves as Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for Quality and Patient Safety at New York-Presbyterian Hospital and Healthcare System, The University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell. Dr. Ting is responsible for vision, strategy, planning, and operations for quality, patient safety, regulatory & accreditation, and infection prevention & control at the largest, not-for-profit, academic medical center in the nation. Formerly from 1997-2014, Dr. Ting was a Professor of Medicine at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Associate Dean of Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Director of Mayo Clinic Quality Academy, Clinical Practice Chair of the Mayo Clinic Division of Cardiovascular Diseases, and Chair of Regional Cardiology of the Mayo Clinic Health System.

Dr. Ting earned a B.A. degree in Chemistry from Cornell University, a M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School, a M.B.A. degree from University of St. Thomas in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and received training in Biostatistics and Epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health Clinical Effectiveness Program. He completed residency in Internal Medicine and fellowships in Cardiovascular Diseases and Interventional Cardiology at Brigham and Women's Hospital. He also received training and certification in Lean, Six-Sigma, Change Management, Value Network

Analysis, and Baldrige Model for performance excellence.

Mladen Vidovich, MD

Chief of Cardiology, Jesse Brown VA Medical Center

Mladen Vidovich is an Interventional Cardiologist, Associate Professor of Medicine and Chief of Cardiology at Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in Chicago. His research focus is reduction in bleeding complications, hospitalization and equipment cost with radial angiography and coronary intervention. His other interests are intracoronary imaging and intermediate lesion assessment. He has published numerous journal articles, abstracts and book chapters on topics of Interventional Cardiology. He has developed a dedicated diagnostic cardiology catheter that is in current use. He lectures extensively on national and international conferences.