



Neurology Endorsement Maintenance Project Steering Committee Roster

David Knowlton, MA (Co-Chair)

New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute, West Trenton, NJ

David Knowlton, MA, has been a leader in health issues in New Jersey and nationally since 1977. He served as the past Chairman of the Leapfrog Group, a nationally recognized foundation committed to improve the quality of patient care throughout the United States. He has served as a member of the National Quality Forum's Steering Committees for Standardizing Cardiac Surgery Performance Measures, Assessing ACE Inhibitors and ARBS as Quality Measures, Hospice and Palliative Care Measures, "Common Format" Development, Hospital Acquired Infections and was appointed to the Patient Safety Indicators Steering Committee. He co-chaired the NQF Steering Committee on Stroke Measures. Mr. Knowlton served as the Deputy Commissioner of Health for the State of New Jersey from 1987 to 1990. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in psychology and education from University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and Trinity College (Hartford, Connecticut).

David Tirschwell, MD, MSc (Co-Chair)

University of Washington, Department of Neurology, Seattle, WA

David Tirschwell, MD, MSc, is an Associate Professor of Neurology at the University Of Washington School Of Medicine in Seattle and medical co-director of TJC certified, Comprehensive Stroke Center at Harborview Medical Center (HMC). He serves as Director of Stroke Quality Improvement at HMC, and is board-certified in Neurology and Vascular Neurology. He serves on the WA DOH Emergency Cardiac & Stroke Technical Advisory Committee and served on the steering committee of the CDC funded NW Regional Stroke Network. Dr. Tirschwell participates in NIH and industry funded research, reviews clinical trial and other grants for NINDS, served on the Neurology Executive Committee of the RESPECT clinical trial and has served on NIH and industry sponsored DSMBs.

A. M. Barrett, MD

Stroke Rehabilitation Research, Kessler Foundation, West Orange, NJ

A. M. Barrett, MD (Anna Barrett) is a cognitive neurologist and clinical researcher, and Director of Stroke Rehabilitation Research at Kessler Research Center, as well as Chief, Neurorehabilitation Program Innovation, Kessler Institute of Rehabilitation. She is Professor of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R) at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-New Jersey Medical School (UMDNJ-NJMS) and Adjunct Professor of Neurology, Columbia University School of Medicine. Her clinical and research focus is on brain-behavior relationships from a cognitive neurology, cognitive neuroscience, and cognitive neurorehabilitation perspective. Dr. Barrett is an expert in hidden cognitive disabilities making patients vulnerable to safety problems & rehospitalization, increased caregiver burden, & poor hospital-to-home transition, Dr. Barrett works to create clinical practice guidelines relevant to cognition.

William Barsan, MD

University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI

William Barsan, MD is Professor and Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Michigan. He has been active in stroke clinical research since the 1980's and was one of the lead investigators on the NINDS tPA Pilot study and the NINDS tPA randomized trial. He has served on Stroke guideline panels for the American Heart Association and has co-chaired several NINDS Conferences related to emergency stroke care. He currently is the Coordinating Center PI for the NINDS-funded Neurological Emergencies Treatment Trials (NETT) network.

Jocelyn Bautista, MD

Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH

Jocelyn Bautista, MD, is assistant professor of medicine at Cleveland Clinic, and is board-certified in Adult Neurology and Epilepsy/Clinical Neurophysiology. She completed her medical degree at Washington University, residency at Yale University, and fellowship at Cleveland Clinic. She has served as the Neurological Institute Quality Improvement Officer since 2007 and is responsible for directing quality improvement and outcomes reporting for multiple neurological diseases. In this role she works directly with quality management, accreditation, clinical risk, and performance improvement specialists. Primary interests include advancing the evaluation and treatment of epilepsy and promoting quality improvement and transparency in neurological disease.

Ramon Bautista, MD, MBA

University of Florida HSC/Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL

Ramon Bautista, MD, MBA, is Associate Chairman and Associate Professor of Neurology, University of Florida-Jacksonville. He completed his residency at Washington University and fellowships at Emory University and Yale University. He is board certified by the ABPN and ABCN. Dr. Bautista completed his MBA at Jacksonville University and is a Certified Physician Executive of the American College of Physician Executives. Dr. Bautista has participated in numerous quality initiatives as President of the Faculty Council and as a member of the Board of Directors of UF/Jacksonville and Shands Hospital. He is developing a curriculum to teach quality and process improvement to healthcare workers.

Gwendolen Buhr, MD

Duke University, Durham, NC

Gwendolen Buhr, MD, is a clinician educator at Duke University in the Division of Geriatrics. In this role she has developed novel curricular programs to teach long-term care focused curricula, quality improvement, and transitions of care principles to nursing and medical learners. Her clinical responsibilities include attending on the geriatric medicine consult service at Duke hospital, as well as a 34-bed assisted living unit and primary care clinic in a Duke-serviced continuing care retirement community (CCRC), where she is the medical director. As a geriatrician with a primary care practice in a CCRC, Dr. Buhr is very interested in health promotion and disease prevention for older adults.

Gail Austin Cooney, MD, FAAHPM

Hospice of Palm Beach County/Spectrum Health Inc., West Palm Beach, FL

Gail Austin Cooney, MD, FAAHPM, is a fellow and past-president of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. She is Medical Director Emeritus for Hospice of Palm Beach County and president of the newly formed National Board for Hospice Medical Director Certification. In March 2012 she was awarded the AAHPM Josefina B. Magno Distinguished Hospice Physician award for providing the highest quality services and innovative programs to the practice of palliative medicine in a hospice setting. She is board certified in neurology, pain medicine, and hospice and palliative medicine. She served as AAHPM's voting representative to the Physician's Consortium for Quality Improvement and was a member of the PCPI geriatric measure work group.

Tina Cronin, APRN

Piedmont Medical Center, Rock Hill, SC

Tina Cronin, APRN, is an Advanced Practice RN with 18+ years of nursing experience in neurosciences. Her experience entails care of patients with neurological deficits, critical care, and nursing leadership. She currently holds national certifications as a Certified Critical RN, Certified Neuroscience RN and as a Critical Care Clinical Nurse Specialist. Throughout her career she has worked as a bedside RN, epilepsy nurse coordinator, neurosurgical progressive/intensive care RN and nurse educator, program coordinator, neuroscience service line director and currently is the senior director of clinical programs and outcomes.

Jordan Eisenstock, MD, CPE

UMass Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, MA

Jordan Eisenstock, MD, CPE, is a board-certified neurologist and psychiatrist and a member of the medical staff at UMass Memorial Medical Center, where he serves as a site director of neurology education. He is an Assistant Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry at UMass Medical School, and a Certified Physician Executive (CPE) through the American College of Physician Executives. Dr. Eisenstock is also the Director of Neurorehabilitation at UMass Memorial Health Care's rehabilitation hospital, Fairlawn. Nationally, Dr. Eisenstock serves on the Psychiatry Part B Committee through the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN). A graduate of Georgetown University, Dr. Eisenstock completed his medical degree and a combined residency in neurology and psychiatry at UMass Medical School.

Risha Gidwani, DrPH

Stanford University Medical Center, Palo Alto, CA

Risha Gidwani, DrPH, obtained her Doctor of Public Health degree from the UCLA department of Health Services, where she specialized in quality assessment and cost-effectiveness analysis, studying under Emmett Keeler, Gerald Kominski, and Jack Needleman. Dr. Gidwani has worked as a Principal Investigator or Co-Principal Investigator on a number of health economics and outcomes research projects. She has work experience in a multitude of health service delivery systems, including private insurance, pharmaceutical consulting, the Veterans Health Administration Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (VA QUERI), public health departments, and academic medical centers. She is a health services research methodologist whose work aims to bridge the gap between research and practice. Dr. Gidwani currently works at Stanford University Medical Center, where she conducts applied health services research regarding the quality and outcomes of neuroscience care, including comparative effectiveness research. She is also actively involved in designing systems for capture of data used for quality assessment and evaluation.

David Hackney, MD

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA

David Hackney, MD is certified in Diagnostic Radiology/Neuroradiology. He is Chief of Neuroradiology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. He is Professor of Radiology, and Assistant Dean for Faculty Development at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Hackney was previously Acting Section Chief of Neuroradiology at Hospital of the University. He has published over 170 original manuscripts, editorials, reviews, chapters, and hundreds of abstracts. Dr. Hackney served on the following NIH boards: Trauma Task Force, the Medical Imaging Study Section for the Center for Scientific Review, as well as special emphasis panels for the NCI. He served on the FDA Radiological Devices Panel and was a member of Veteran's Administration State of the Art Conference on Traumatic Brain injury. Dr. Hackney's primary research interest concerns MR imaging of spinal cord injury.

Beth Kallmyer, MSW

Alzheimer's Association, Chicago, IL

Beth Kallmyer, MSW, is the Vice President of Constituent Services for the national Alzheimer's Association. Ms. Kallmyer oversees Association programs and services nationwide for individuals with Alzheimer's and their families, outreach to healthcare professionals and diversity and inclusiveness initiatives. These services include information and referral through the Association's 24/7 Helpline, consumer education workshops, support groups for caregivers and programming for persons with early stage Alzheimer's. Ms. Kallmyer has more than 20 years experience working for not for profit organizations in both direct service and leadership roles. She has been with the Alzheimer's Association since 2001. Prior to working for the Alzheimer's Association, she worked in healthcare, emergency services, community mental health and hospice. Ms. Kallmyer has a bachelor's degree from St. Mary's College of Notre Dame and an MSW from the Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

Gregory Kapinos, MD, MS

North Shore-LIJ Health System, New York, NY

Gregory Kapinos, MD, MS, is a board certified neurologist and neuro-intensivist at North Shore-LIJ Health System. Laureate of the medical school Francois Rabelais (Tours, France) and diplomate of the medical school Pitie-Salpetriere (Paris, France), he completed his residency in neurology at Stanford U. Dr Kapinos has developed sub-specialty skills in stroke at the NIH, in neurosurgical critical care at UCLA, in critical care epilepsy at Columbia, and in stroke imaging at Georgetown. Dr. Kapinos completed a fellowship in neurocritical care at New York Presbyterian Hospital of Columbia & Cornell Universities.

Michael Kaplitt, MD, PhD

Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY

Michael Kaplitt, PhD, MD specializes in neurosurgical treatment of movement disorders, including Parkinson's disease, essential tremor and dystonia, using various surgical approaches including deep brain stimulation. He also specializes in surgery for intractable pain and spasticity, implanting devices such as spinal cord stimulators and spinal infusion pumps. He is also an expert in the treatment of trigeminal neuralgia and hydrocephalus, and performs general neurosurgery as well. He works with a team of specialists, including neurologists, neurophysiologists, neuropsychologists, brain imaging experts, physiatrists/therapists, and pain management specialists to provide superior care in all of these areas before, during and after surgery.

Roger Mark Kurlan, MD

Atlantic Neurosciences Institute, Overlook Hospital, Summit, NJ

Roger Mark Kurlan, MD, obtained his Bachelor's degree from the University of Rochester in 1974 and his medical degree from the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis in 1978. He did a residency in Internal Medicine at the Washington University Medical Center and then a residency in Neurology and a Fellowship in Movement Disorders and Clinical Neuropharmacology at the University of Rochester Medical Center. He remained as a faculty member at the University of Rochester from 1984 to 2009, serving as Professor of Neurology and the Center for Developmental and Aging Neurobiology. He has published more than 175 articles and has edited two books.

Daniel Labovitz, MD, MS

Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY, NY

Daniel Labovitz, MD, completed medical school, neurology residency and stroke fellowship and a Master's in epidemiology at Columbia University. Currently he is director of the Stern Stroke Center at Montefiore Medical Center, Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Labovitz is an expert in vascular neurology and neuroepidemiology. Peer-reviewed publications have examined race/ethnic differences in incidence of subarachnoid hemorrhage, intracerebral hemorrhage, incidence of early stroke-related seizures, differences in lacunar infarction and deep hemorrhage, and limitations in treating in-hospital ischemic stroke with IV tPA. He serves on the Montefiore Quality Council and takes a deep interest in developing meaningful quality measures supported by administrative data.

Therese Richmond, PhD, CRNP, FAAN

University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing, Philadelphia, PA

Therese Richmond, PhD, CRNP, FAAN, is the Andrea B. Laporte Endowed Term Professor at the School of Nursing and Senior Fellow in the Leonard Davis Institute for Health Care Economics at University of Pennsylvania. She has extensive experience as a trauma/neurological clinician with expertise in traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury and was responsible a quality improvement program of a Level I trauma center. She has experience in instrument development. Dr. Richmond's research focuses on factors contributing to post-injury disability and has been funded by the NIH, Center for Injury Prevention & Control of the CDC, and the Joyce Foundation. She has published 75 clinical, research and methodological papers in premier journals.

Jack Scariano, Jr., MD, FAAN

Neurologist, Neurologist, Outpatient Clinical Neurology, Knoxville, TN

Jack Scariano, MD, FAAN, has been a practicing Neurologist since 1979. His clinical training started in 1975 at Charity Hospital New Orleans, Louisiana, which had over 1000 active beds. The neurological service had a large number of impoverished patients with neurological illnesses, drawn from the entire state of Louisiana. Dr. Scariano's practice of Neurology started pre-CT scan and continues to evolve with uses of newer technologies. Dr. Scariano was board certified in Neurology in 1982. He was Neurology Certified with Added Qualifications in Neurophysiology in 1994. In 1995 he received his Board Certification in Pain Medicine. He has worked in and formed several Neurology Services in area medical centers in East Tennessee. He was an active consultant on the hospital services of two hospitals until 2010. He has seen and evaluated over 60,000 patients in his career so far and has performed over 20,000 eeg and 10,000 emgs. He now limits his practice to outpatient Clinical Neurology. He has a career-long interest in providing high quality and cost effective neurological care to the Medicare/Medicaid population in East Tennessee. He is also very interested in the early diagnosis and Treatment of new onset Parkinson's disease in the older population. He has an interest in developing diagnostic and treatment protocols which can be used to render neurological care to patient populations with limited access to medical resources.

Raj Sheth, MD

Nemours Children's Clinic, Jacksonville, FL

Raj D. Sheth, MD, is Professor of Neurology Mayo Medical School and Chief of neurology at Nemours Children's Clinic-Jacksonville, FL. He directs the Pediatric Epilepsy Center at Wolfson Children's Hospital, Jacksonville, FL. He specializes in the tertiary care pediatric epilepsy and other neurological disorders. Dr. Sheth is a nationally recognized expert in pediatric epilepsy. He is also active in the use of EEG in neurological management. Currently, Dr. Sheth has multiple research projects with focus on epilepsy and its co-morbidity including bone health. He is an investigator of grants from the National Institutes of Health and other investigator initiated grants in epilepsy. Dr. Sheth leads a group of epileptologists dedicated to epilepsy patient care. He is Chief of Neurology at Nemours Pediatric Neurology residency training program and educator of fellows, medical students, and residents. He has been a visiting professor at multiple colleges and is presently on the editorial boards of neurological journals. He is also an officer of the major organizations involved in US (American Epilepsy Society) and international (International League Against Epilepsy) education in epilepsy care. He has authored over 120 original research publications, over 20 book chapters and presented at National and International meetings.

Jolynn Suko, MPH

Virginia Mason Medical Center, Seattle, WA

Jolynn R. Suko, MPH, is currently the Administrative Director of the Neuroscience Institute at Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle, Washington. Throughout her career she has held numerous roles in quality, compliance, finance, and operational improvement. She has served two years on the Board of Examiners for the Malcolm Badrige National Quality Award and the Washington State Quality Award. She is certified in lean production methods and studied the Toyota Production System in Japan. She has lead the Corporate Kaizen Promotion Office at Virginia Mason and conducted numerous Rapid Process Improvement workshops and Kaizen Events. She holds a BA in Biology from Whitman College and a Master of Public Health from the University of Michigan.

Jane Sullivan, PT, DHS, MS

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL

Jane Sullivan, PT, DHS, MS, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Sciences, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University. She was the coordinator of the APTA Neurology Section Regional Course: Neurologic Practice Essentials: A Measurement Toolbox, which has been attended by over 400 rehabilitation professionals. In addition, she was the co-chair of the APTA StrokeEDGE taskforce that developed recommendations about outcome measures for clinicians, educators, and researchers for use with individuals following stroke. Dr. Sullivan's research interests are related to community-based physical fitness following stroke and the use of electrical stimulation to enhance arm function after stroke.

Fredrik Tolin, MD, MBA, FACS

Humana, Chicago, IL

Fredrik P. Tolin, MD, MBA, FACS, serves as Vice President in Humana's Chicago office, and is involved with local market issues in addition to corporate responsibilities including policy development and implementation. In the Chicago market, he has led the development of clinical performance measures that have been used successfully with local provider systems. He has also worked with other organizations to develop and improve performance metrics. Dr. Tolin studied chemical engineering at the University of Kentucky, completed his medical degree at the University Of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine, and then trained in surgery at Louisiana State University in New Orleans, and The University of Chicago. He also has an MBA from Northern Illinois University.

Salina Waddy, MD

National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

Salina Waddy is a stroke neurologist who completed her medical doctorate at Columbia University, followed by neurology residency, a stroke fellowship, and neuro-genetics post-doctoral fellowship at Emory University. She was an Assistant Professor at Emory prior beginning her current position as Program Director in the Office of Clinical Research at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS). She has developed several clinical and genetic stroke and cardiovascular ethnic disparities projects. She has developed and implemented the Stroke Prevention Intervention Research Program at the NINDS and is the scientific lead for multiple trans-National Institutes of Health initiatives.