



NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM

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improvements together

Final Roster

Fall 2021 – Spring 2022 Review Cycle, Patient Safety

Committee Chairs

John James, PhD

Founder, Patient Safety America
Houston, TX

Dr. John James is a patient safety activist who founded Patient Safety America with the goal of educating the public on the dangers of American healthcare delivery. Dr. James has published two books on patient safety and published the seminal article in the Journal of Patient Safety (2013) that redefined the extent of harm associated with hospital care. Dr. James has spoken to groups to include physicians, medical students, nurses, nursing students and educators, retiree groups, etc., and he aims to represent the voice of an informed patient when it comes to patient safety and engagement.

Donald Yealy, MD, FACEP

Professor and Chair, University of Pittsburgh-Department of Emergency Medicine
Pittsburgh, PA

Dr. Donald Yealy has led trials with over \$25 million of federal funding and authored over 300 manuscripts, texts, etc. He is a leader in hospital and health system quality efforts, optimal airway management in acute respiratory failure, predictive risk modeling in pneumonia, heart failure, pulmonary embolism, and subsequent translation to practice. His expert input in sepsis influenced the most recent NQF #0500 measure and CMS sepsis-1 quality efforts. Themes of his work include: How can we improve the assessment and treatment of acute illness? Dr. Yealy leads faculty delivering care to over 950,000 patients at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and the University of Pittsburgh.

Committee Members

Emily Aaronson, MD

Assistant Chief Quality Officer, Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA

Dr. Emily Aaronson is an Assistant Chief Quality Officer at Massachusetts General Hospital, an Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School, and an attending physician in the Department of Emergency Medicine. She also serves as an Associate Medical Director for CRICO, the risk management foundation of the Harvard medical institutions. Prior to this, she was a resident in the Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency, where she served as a chief resident. She completed a fellowship in patient safety and quality improvement and a master's in public health at the Harvard School of Public Health. Before medical school, Dr. Aaronson worked in healthcare consulting.

Joel Bundy, MD, FACP, FASN, CPE

Vice President, Chief Quality & Safety Officer, Sentara Healthcare
Norfolk, VA

Dr. Joel Bundy is Vice President and Chief Quality & Safety Officer at Sentara Healthcare in Norfolk, VA. He is a certified physician executive and fellow at the American College of Physicians and the American Society of Nephrology and a Six Sigma Black Belt/Lean practitioner. His medical degree is from the Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest University. He has two decades of clinical and healthcare leadership experience with hospital and system initiatives for clinical process improvement. He was commissioned to the US Navy and subsequently served as a general medical officer at Cecil Field in Jacksonville, FL and Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, VA.

Elissa Charbonneau, DO, MS

Chief Medical Officer, Encompass Health Corporation
Birmingham, AL

Dr. Elissa Charbonneau was appointed Chief Medical Officer of Encompass Health in June 2015 after starting as Vice President of Medical Services. She is a board-certified physiatrist and holds an academic appointment at Tufts University, where she is associate professor of PM&R. In 2007 and 2012, she was named HealthSouth's Medical Director of the Year. She received her DO from the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine, a master of epidemiology/natural sciences from State University of New York Buffalo, and a bachelor of science in biology from Cornell University. She completed a residency in PM&R at Temple University/Moss Rehabilitation Hospital.

Curtis Collins, PharmD, MS

Specialty Pharmacist, Infectious Diseases, St. Joseph Mercy Health System
Ann Arbor, MI

Dr. Curtis Collins is currently an Infectious Diseases Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at St. Joseph Mercy Health System in Ann Arbor, MI. He has published extensively in the fields of infectious diseases pharmacotherapy, antimicrobial stewardship, and pharmacoconomics. Dr. Collins is active in professional organizations such as the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP). He previously served as Chair of ASHP's Section of Clinical Specialists and Scientists and has served on the National Quality Forum's Infectious Diseases endorsement maintenance project as well as the Surgery endorsement maintenance project.

Theresa Edelstein, MPH, LNHA

Vice President, New Jersey Hospital Association
Princeton, NJ

Theresa Edelstein has served as the vice president of post-acute care policy at the NJ Hospital Association for the last 21 years. She has spent her entire career in the field of aging and disability services beginning at the Jewish Home & Hospital for Aged in NYC. She is a licensed nursing home administrator and has a firm grounding in quality measurement in long-term settings. During the last several years, she has devoted a great deal of time to quality initiatives related to post-acute care, including pressure ulcer prevention, catheter-associated urinary tract infection, and end-of life/physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment. She is also a member of New Jersey's Medical Assistance Advisory Council and Managed Long-Term Services and Supports (Steering Committee, which monitor the transition to managed care for Medicaid-funded long-term services and supports.

Terry Fairbanks, MD, MS, FACEP

Vice President, Quality & Safety, MedStar Health
Washington, DC

Dr. Rollin J. “Terry” Fairbanks is Vice President of Quality & Safety at MedStar Health, founding director of the National Center for Human Factors in Healthcare, professor of emergency medicine at Georgetown University, and emergency physician at MedStar Washington Hospital Center. He holds a master’s degree in ISE/system safety engineering with a human factors engineering focus. He has published over 150 papers; served in formal safety advisory roles for the U.S., British, Spanish, and Australian governments served on the NPSF board of advisors; and was listed in *Becker’s Top 50 Experts Leading the Field of Patient Safety*.

Jason Falvey, DPT, PhD

Assistant Professor, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health
Baltimore, MD

Dr. Jason Falvey is a board-certified geriatric physical therapist with more than 10 years of clinical and research experience working with older adults across the continuum of care. Dr. Falvey received a dual bachelor’s degree in English literature and kinesiology and his DPT degree from Husson University, a PhD in rehabilitation sciences from University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus, and completed a post-doctoral fellowship in epidemiology of aging at the Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Falvey is currently an assistant professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine’s Department of Epidemiology and Public Health.

Robert Green, MD, MPH, MA

Vice President of Quality & Patient Safety, New York Presbyterian Healthcare System
New York, NY

Dr. Robert Green is the vice president of Quality & Patient Safety for NewYork-Presbyterian (NYP), a 10-hospital health system in New York City. He obtained his medical degree from New York University and completed his residency training and certification in internal medicine in 1991 at NYP/Columbia. He then obtained board certification in both emergency medicine and clinical informatics by 2013. Dr. Green currently leads a team of over 70 physicians, nurses, and healthcare professionals in the Department of Quality & Patient Safety, focusing on improving clinical outcomes, decreasing preventable errors, and ensuring regulatory compliance for quality at NYP.

Sara Hawkins PhD, RN, CPPS

Director of Patient Safety & Risk, Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center (EIRMC)
Idaho Falls, ID

Dr. Sara Hawkins is the director of patient safety & risk with Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center, a subsidiary of HCA Healthcare, working to promote a culture of safety and the elimination of avoidable harm. An experienced leader and academic, she offers a broad perspective to healthcare delivery, policy, and safety science. Dr. Hawkins is dedicated to the exploration of patient safety in the context of workload, among other metrics, and contributes to the literature through publication in peer-reviewed journals. Engaged in professional organizations, Dr. Hawkins currently serves as editor for RN Idaho and board member for Nurse Leaders of Idaho.

Bret Jackson

President, The Economic Alliance for Michigan
Novi, MI

Bret Jackson has worked in the private, public, and non-profit sectors throughout Michigan. He began working at the Economic Alliance for Michigan (EAM) in 2007 and became the organization's third president in January 2011. During his tenure as president, EAM has become a Leapfrog Regional Leader for the state of Michigan. Hospital participation in the Leapfrog survey has increased by 70 percent and hospital safety grades have measurably increased since EAM became involved in the effort. He is an active member of the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions in their health policy, patient safety, transparency, and prescription drug efforts.

Laura Kinney MA, BSN, RN, CPHQ, CPHRM, CPMA, CPC

Clinical Strategy Lead, Enterprise Clinical Quality: Office of the Chief Medical Officer, Humana Inc.
Louisville, KY

Laura Kinney is a clinical risk manager and quality leader with Humana Inc. where she has been employed 12 years, focusing on patient safety. Laura is also a registered nurse who worked in critical care, emergency/trauma, and was director of transitional care at a Level 1 trauma center in a university setting. She was the director of risk management at two hospital systems prior to joining Humana and is also experienced in insurance, medical coding and auditing, fraud/waste/abuse, medical law, compliance, and hospital administration. Laura is passionate about mentoring youth and women and using her talents to encourage others to succeed on their career and college paths. She enjoys spending time with her two children, Matt (23) and Eleana (20), and her rescue dog, Gus.

Arpana Mathur, MD, MBA

Medical Director, Physician Services, CVS Health
Naperville, IL

Dr. Arpana Mathur is a board-certified family physician and medical director at CVS Health. She leads Caremark Clinical Quality and supports enterprise patient safety. She has expertise in using data-driven insights to create sustainable change in healthcare processes to optimize patient and population health outcomes. Dr. Mathur completed family medicine residency training at University of Illinois, followed by a fellowship in academic medicine. In 2016, she pursued an MBA from Loyola University in Chicago. Dr. Mathur has two decades of experience as a family physician in various practice settings including a residency program, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), and a multispecialty group practice.

Raquel Mayne, MS, MPH, RN

Senior Quality Management Specialist, Hospital for Special Surgery
New York City, NY

Raquel Mayne has almost 20 years of experience as a registered nurse, starting her career in a pediatric intensive care unit (ICU). For the last 12 years, she has worked at the Hospital for Special Surgery in Quality Management and the Value Management Office, where she has coordinated physician peer review and managed public reporting programs, including hospital acquired condition reduction and readmissions reduction. She has expertise in performance measurement, quality reporting, value-based purchasing, physician quality, and patient safety. She is currently a doctoral student at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health where she is studying quality and patient safety.

Anne Myrka, RPh, MAT

Director, Drug Safety, Island Peer Review Organization (IPRO)
Lake Success, NY

Anne Myrka is the Senior Director of Drug Safety in the Health Care Quality Improvement Program at IPRO, the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) designated Quality Innovation Organization (QIO) for New York State, New Jersey, and Ohio. In this role she leads the CMS QIO program for the state of Ohio and is also the lead for patient safety and drug safety tasks across the three states such as reducing opioid-related adverse drug events (ADEs) and deaths, reducing ADEs due to anticoagulants, diabetes medications, antibiotics and antipsychotics, reducing hospitalizations and readmissions due to ADEs, and reducing C. difficile infections in the community and nursing homes.

Edward Pollak, MD

Chief Quality Officer, Henry Ford Health System
Detroit, MI

Dr. Edward Pollak is CQO at Henry Ford Hospital. Dr. Pollak worked on NQF measure development in 2013/2014 on the American Society of Anesthesiology CPOM committee. From 2017-2020, Dr. Pollak was the national patient safety officer at The Joint Commission (TJC) where he ran patient safety and quality improvement efforts. Working with national experts, he led efforts to direct resources to combat provider burnout. Pollak helped revise National Patient Safety Goals and revised the Sentinel Event Policy to make it more aligned to current quality and safety concerns. Dr. Pollak was a core member of TJC's National Patient Safety Collaborative partnering with Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP), and ECRI.

Jamie Roney, DNP, NPD-BC, CCRN-K

Covenant Health Texas Regional Research Coordinator, Covenant Health System
Lubbock, TX

Jamie Roney is a nurse leader dedicated to patient safety and quality care. Her nursing career includes service to our country in the U.S. Army Reserves. Her nursing practice includes work in acute care settings in West Texas. She is active in local and national nursing organizations, including the American Association of Critical Care Nurses and Sigma Theta Tau International. She has taught multiple continuing education programs on safety-related topics including CMS core measures, Institute for Healthcare Improvement bundles, and identification and management of the septic patient.

Nancy Schoenborn, MD

Geriatric Medicine Specialist, American Geriatrics Society
Baltimore, MD

Dr. Nancy Schoenborn is a practicing geriatrician, primary care physician, and health services researcher focused on improving patient-centered care for older adults with multiple chronic conditions. Her research has focused on individualizing decision-making and communication in cancer screening to avoid overuse and unnecessary harms and is currently extending this approach to medication safety and deprescribing research in older adults with polypharmacy.

David Seidenwurm, MD, FACR

Quality and Safety Director, Sutter Health
Sacramento, CA

Dr. David Seidenwurm is currently a neuroradiologist with Sutter Medical Group in Sacramento, CA. He is chair of the groupwide Quality Committee and the System Radiology Quality & Safety Medical Director. Previously, he had been a neuroradiologist at Radiological Associates of Sacramento since 1991, and past Chairman of the Diagnostic Radiology Division, comprised of 43 radiologists covering five hospital radiology departments and 12 independent imaging facilities. He has also been president of California Managed Imaging, a statewide diagnostic imaging network.

Geeta Sood, MD, ScM

The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA)
Baltimore, MD

Dr. Geeta Sood is an infectious disease physician who completed her medical training at Temple University and her epidemiology training at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She has served as a hospital epidemiologist for 11 years. She was an active member of the SHEA Public Policy and Government Affairs (PPGA) Committee and currently serves on the SHEA Quality Metrics Task Force. She is a member of Maryland's Health Services Cost Review Commission's Performance Measurement Review Committee, which advises the state on the development and evaluation of quality metrics tied to hospital payment through Maryland's unique all-payer model.

Iona Thraen, PhD, ACSW

Patient Safety Director, Utah Hospital and Health Clinics Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Utah, School of Medicine, Department of Biomedical Informatics
Salt Lake City, UT

Dr. Iona Thraen has a PhD in medical informatics from the University of Utah, 30 hours of graduate credit in healthcare economics and a master's degree in social work. She combines technical content knowledge with process knowledge in her group interactions around common goals. Dr. Thraen specializes in collaborative interactions functioning at times as a decision support provider, a group facilitator, a process analyzer, and an insight provider. Her performance in these varying roles is conducted on behalf of the common good and with the intent of achieving the stated goals.

Yanling Yu, PhD

Physical Oceanographer and Patient Safety Advocate, Washington Advocate for Patient Safety
Seattle, WA

Dr. Yanling Yu is a physical oceanographer and patient safety advocate. Before her retirement from University of Washington, she researched polar sea ice and their changes in response to climate change. However, her professional path took a sharp turn after her father tragically died due to preventable medical harm caused by the negligent use of an off-label medication. Now, she is actively involved with various patient safety issues at the state and national levels. As a patient safety advocate, she promotes hospital care and medication safety, healthcare accountability and transparency, patient rights to informed consent and shared decision making, as well as patient- and family-centered care. In 2011, she and her husband Rex Johnson worked with state legislators and got a medical board transparency bill passed in Washington State. She will continue to be the voice for patients and families, including those who have no voices anymore.