

Health Disparities: How Far Have We Come?

Introduction

There are significant health disparities associated with health insurance coverage. The Affordable Care Act coordinated a needs assessment that laid the foundation to reduce health disparities by assuring coverage for 19 million previously uninsured Americans.

In New York State, DSRIP (Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program) projects improved Medicaid coverage for underinsured and uninsured New Yorkers, with a long-range plan to move towards a value-based payment system that will level the playing field for patients and their providers, and hence reduce health disparities.

Population health is generally considered to be a research approach focused on the interdependent determinants of health of populations including medical care, public health interventions, aspects of the social environment (income, education, employment, social support, culture) and of the physical environment (urban design, clean air and water), genetics, and individual behavior. Population health also focuses on how resources to address health in various populations are allocated.

This allocation directly affects access to health care and affects policies that might address the needs of various populations.

Target audience

The target audience includes physicians, nurses, community health workers, community based organizations/providers, healthcare systems and political leaders.

ADA Statement

Special Needs: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University seeks to make this conference accessible to all. If you have a disability which might require special accommodations, please contact Dr. Pamela Straker or e-mail your needs to lakia.maxwell@downstate.edu

Health Disparities: How Far Have We Come?

Day 1: Friday, October 18, 2019

Agenda

Jointly provided by Brooklyn Health Disparities Center, Healthfirst, Howard University College of Medicine, MediNova and SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University.

8:15AM – 9:00AM	Registration and Breakfast
9:00AM – 9:15AM	<p>Welcome and Introduction Co-Course Directors</p> <p>Moro O. Salifu, MD, MPH, MBA, MACP Susan J. Beane, MD Chairman, Department of Medicine Executive Medical Director SUNY Downstate Medical Center Healthfirst</p>
PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	
9:15AM – 11:15AM	<p><i>Colorectal Cancer Disparities: Ensuring That No Colon Is Left Behind</i> Adeyinka O. Laiyemo, MD, MPH Associate Professor of Medicine Division of Gastroenterology Department of Medicine Howard University College of Medicine</p> <p><i>Somewhere Over the Rainbow: Type 2 Diabetes Health Disparities Through the Lens of Epigenetics</i> Maurice B. Fluitt, PhD Assistant Professor Endocrinology and Metabolism, Department of Medicine Howard University College of Medicine</p> <p><i>Overcoming Health Disparities in Medication Adherence</i> Alexandra Cruz, PharmD Director, Pharmacy Provider Engagement Healthfirst</p> <p><i>Addressing Disparities in Postpartum Care for High Risk Women</i> Susan J. Beane, MD Executive Medical Director Healthfirst</p>
11:15AM – 12:15PM	Question and Answer Session
CLOSING REMARKS/ADJOURN	

Health Disparities: How Far Have We Come?

Day 2: Saturday October 19, 2019

Agenda

Jointly provided by Brooklyn Health Disparities Center, Healthfirst, Howard University College of Medicine, MediNova and SUNY Downstate Medical Center

8:15AM – 9:00AM	Registration and Breakfast
9:00AM – 9:15AM	<p>Welcome and Introduction:</p> <p>Moro O. Salifu, MD, MPH, MBA, MACP Professor and Chairman, Department of Medicine SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University</p> <p>Susan J. Beane, MD Vice President/Executive Medical Director Healthfirst</p>
PRESENTATIONS/LECTURES	
9:15AM – 10:00AM	<p>KEYNOTE: <i>The Skin You're In: Why Race Determines Health</i></p> <p>Thomas A. LaVeist, PhD Dean and Professor Weatherhead Presidential Chair in Health Equity Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine</p>
10:00AM – 10:20AM	Question and Answer Session
CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH	
10:20AM – 10:50AM	<p>Metabolic abnormalities in ESRD that explain CV risk Clinton D. Brown, MD, FASN, FAHA, FLNA Professor of Medicine SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University</p>
10:50 am – 11:05 AM	Question and Answer Session
11:05AM – 11:15AM	BREAK: 10 MINUTES
HEALTH EQUITY	
11:15AM – 11:45AM	<p>Asian Americans and Health Equity: Dismantling Stereotypes and Changing the Narrative</p> <p>Simona C. Kwon, DrPH, MPH Associate Professor NYU School of Medicine Director, Center for the Study of Asian American Health</p>
11:45AM – 12:00PM	Question and Answer Session
12:00PM – 1:00PM	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LUNCH: 60 MINUTES

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CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH	
1:00PM – 1:30PM	<p><i>CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE HEALTH DISPARITIES IN UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY POPULATIONS: Existing Challenges and Opportunities</i></p> <p>Carlos Jose Rodriguez, MD, MPH Professor (tenured) and Vice Chair for Academic Affairs Division of Cardiovascular Medicine Director of Clinical Cardiovascular Research Albert Einstein College of Medicine</p>
1:30PM – 1:45PM	Question and Answer Session
1:45PM – 2:00PM	BREAK: 15 MINUTES
POPULATION HEALTH	
2:00PM – 3:45PM	<p><i>Population Health as It Relates to Quality and Cost</i></p> <p>Moro Salifu, MD, MPH, MBA, MACP Professor and Chairman, Department of Medicine SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University</p> <p><i>Using Machine Learning and Artificial/Augmented Intelligence in Health Disparities</i></p> <p>Azizi Seixas, PhD Assistant Professor of Population Health and Psychiatry NYU Langone Health</p>
3:45PM – 4:30PM	Question and Answer Session
CLOSING REMARKS/ADJOURN	

Brooklyn Health Disparities Center and its partners continue to work toward the mission of improving the health and well-being of Brooklyn residents. The Center is committed to reducing health disparities in the context of increasing the level of engagement of academics, community members, and policy makers in the process.

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Conference Directors



Moro O. Salifu, MD, MBA, MPH, MACP is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Medicine, Chief of the Division of Nephrology and Director of the Kidney Transplant Program at SUNY Downstate. Dr. Salifu came to SUNY Downstate after medical school in Turkey to pursue residency training in internal medicine. After internship, Dr. Salifu rapidly excelled as resident in medicine, subsequently meriting him fellowships in kidney diseases, kidney transplantation and interventional nephrology, for which he graduated as a stellar scholar in all three subspecialties. While in residency and Fellowship training, Dr. Salifu won annual awards in the basic science category in the Department of Medicine for six consecutive years as well as four consecutive awards from the American College of Physicians. After fellowship training, Dr. Salifu was retained by SUNY Downstate as Assistant Professor in 2001. He rapidly rose through the ranks to Associate Professor and Professor within 7 years, a milestone that is credited to his outstanding original research contributions, clinical acumen and medical education. In about the same time, Dr. Salifu, earned two masters degrees in public health and healthcare business administration respectively. He has directed the nephrology fellowship training program since 2001 and in 2008 assumed the roles of Chief of Nephrology and Director of the Transplant Program, roles that were crucial to the

restructuring of the kidney dialysis and transplant programs at Downstate. He is a recipient of many grants and has published extensively. He is a member and journal reviewer for many nephrology and transplant societies and has served in many local and national professional committees. He is also a Master of the American College of Physicians. Dr. Salifu's research interests are CKD disease progression, vascular biology and kidney transplant outcomes.

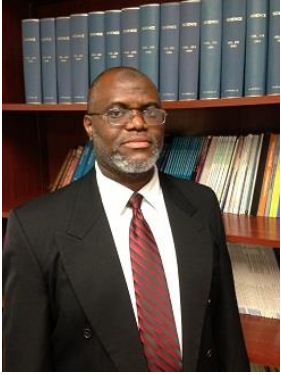


Susan Beane, MD joined Healthfirst in 2009, bringing with her extensive professional experience in managed care. As Vice President and Executive Medical Director at Healthfirst, Dr. Beane focuses on care management and clinical provider partnerships, programs especially designed to improve the delivery of vital, evidence-based health care to our members. Dr. Beane is a strong proponent of collaborating with and engaging providers to improve health outcomes. Dr. Beane leads Healthfirst in collaborating with major healthcare delivery systems, local, and national policy experts on the design, implementation, and dissemination of innovative, outcomes focused models of care. Her research contributions span health of caregivers, obesity, and maternal health. Prior to joining Healthfirst, Dr. Beane served as Chief Medical Officer for Affinity Health Plan for five years—during which time she helped Affinity's plan become a top performer in quality and member satisfaction. Before that, she worked at AmeriChoice and HIP USA, as Medical Director. Dr. Beane is a graduate of Princeton University and Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.



Henry Robert Paul, MD obtained his Bachelor of Science in Biology at the University Of Illinois-Chicago and his Medical Degree from Ross University in Dominica. He completed his residency training in Internal Medicine at the Jersey Shore Medical Center in Neptune, New Jersey. He pursued his fellowship in Nephrology at the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn. He has always maintained his practice in underserved neighborhoods and is presently practicing in Brooklyn as an Attending Physician at the Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center and SUNY Downstate Medical Center as an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Renal Diseases Division. He also practices at the New York Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn. Dr. Paul is a board member of NOAH (National Organization for the Advancement of Haitians), Haitian American Alliance and is an advisory board member of the Center of Hope Haiti. He founded NOAH New York, Inc., also known as MediNova which has been conducting medical missions to Fort Liberté, Haiti since 2009.

Faculty /Speakers: Day 1



Adeyinko Laiyemo, MD, MPH, FACP, FACG, AGAF is currently an Associate Professor of Medicine in Howard University College of Medicine in Washington DC. He received his medical degree from the University of Lagos in Nigeria in 1990 and obtained a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health in 2006. After completing his medical residency and clinical gastroenterology fellowship at Howard University, he underwent a four-year postdoctoral fellowship in Cancer Prevention in the Office of Preventive Oncology, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health from 2005 - 2009.



Maurice B. Fluitt, PhD is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism at Howard University College of Medicine. Maurice completed his Ph.D. in Genetics and Human Genetics at Howard University (Washington, DC) and his undergraduate studies in Biology at Chowan University (Murfreesboro, NC). After completing his doctoral studies, he was awarded an NIH-TL1 Postdoctoral Fellowship at Georgetown University in the Georgetown-Howard Universities Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences (GHUCCTS) Translational Biomedical Sciences Program. He was later awarded an American Diabetes Association Postdoctoral Minority Fellowship to continue his clinical and translational research on the use of microRNAs as biomarkers and therapies of diabetic kidney disease. His research interests are rooted in a sincere passion to identify markers of type 2 diabetes and its complications in minority populations, such as African-Americans and Hispanics. This continued work will provide much needed insight into the diagnosis and serial monitoring of type 2 diabetes and its complications, ultimately leading to the development of novel diagnostic and prognostic tests, as well as therapies, to combat the growing pandemic.



Alexandra Cruz, PharmD is the Director of Pharmacy Provider Engagement at Healthfirst. In this position, she is responsible for collaborating with Healthfirst's hospital partners to implement strategies aimed at improving pharmacy quality measures and reducing pharmacy cost. Alexandra has extensive experience developing clinical programs and initiatives to improve Medicare Star ratings measures with a focus on Medication Adherence. Alexandra is actively involved in training the next generation of pharmacists through her role as a preceptor for Healthfirst's Managed Care Residency Program and St. John's University.

Prior to this role, Alexandra was a Clinical Pharmacist at Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey where she was responsible for the Medicare Part D formulary management and participated in Medication Therapy Management activities while supporting Medicare Star measure improvement. She is a graduate of Rutgers University and completed a Managed Care Residency at Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ.

Faculty /Speakers: Day 2



Thomas A. LaVeist, PhD who was appointed dean of Tulane University, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in July 2018. Prior to that he served as chairman of the Department of Health Policy and Management at the George Washington University (GWU), Milken Institute School of Public Health. His research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, Center for Disease Control, Department of Defense, Commonwealth Fund, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Sage Foundation and the Agency for Healthcare Research. He is the recipient of the "Innovation Award" from the National Institutes of Health, and the "Knowledge Award" from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health. In 2013 he was elected to membership in the National Academy of Medicine.



Clinton D. Brown, MD, FASN, FAHA, FLNA is Professor of Medicine at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University. He is the former Director of the Brooklyn Health Disparities Center. He received his B.S. degree from Queens College and degree in medicine, from Tufts University School of Medicine. His training is in nephrology and clinical lipidology. He is a fellow in: The American Society of Nephrology, The American Heart Association, and The National Lipid Association. He has authored over 100 articles, book chapters and abstracts. His research interest is atherosclerosis.



Simona C. Kwon, DrPh, MPH is an associate professor in the Departments of Population Health and Medicine at NYU Langone. She also hold an appointment in NYU's College of Global Public Health. Dr. Kwon is a social epidemiologist with extensive experience in the use of, among other methods, community-based participatory research, mixed methods (qualitative and quantitative) approaches, evidence-based strategies, dissemination and implementation science, and multidisciplinary teams to address community-level health disparities. Dr. Kwon works in collaboration with multisector coalitions made up of local and national community-based organizations, governmental agencies, service delivery organizations, and researchers from discrete disciplines. Her research examines the social and cultural factors that influence health and health outcomes in racial and ethnic communities, with a particular focus on Asian Americans. Dr. Kwon employs a social determinants of health framework to implement and evaluate evidence-based strategies in community settings, focusing on cultural relevance and impact and finding more effective channels through which to translate research into practice.



Carlos Rodriguez, MD, MPH joined Montefiore Health System and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine as Vice Chair for Academic Affairs, Director of Cardiovascular Research, and Director of Cardiovascular Epidemiology. Born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and raised in Washington Heights and the Bronx, Dr. Rodriguez returned to his hometown from North Carolina, where he served as a tenured Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) and Epidemiology at the Wake Forest School of Medicine since 2017. A noted physician-scientist, Dr. Rodriguez brought a wealth of experience in academic cardiovascular medicine practice, education and clinical research to Montefiore Einstein and the Bronx community. Recognized as a national leader in the study of cardiovascular risk factors that affect minorities, his research focus includes hypertensive heart disease, heart failure, bio-behavioral cardiovascular health, cardiovascular epidemiology and cardiovascular health disparities.

Dr. Rodriguez is a principal investigator in the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute-funded R01 Echocardiographic Study of Latinos (ECHO-SOL; PI Rodriguez). The multi-site research project brings together five academic centers, including Einstein, to perform de novo cardiac imaging in a national cohort of Hispanics. As director of Cardiovascular Epidemiology, he serves as liaison between the division of

Cardiology and the Department of Epidemiology, with the goal of broadening the scope of population health management as it relates to cardiovascular disease. In his capacity as Vice Chair for Academic Affairs, he is a role model and mentor to young faculty and trainees, and facilitates cardiovascular research throughout the institution. After a nine-year stint as a combat medic in the Army National Guard, he earned his MD and MPH degrees concurrently from Columbia, followed by a three-year internal medicine residency at Columbia University Medical Center and a four-year fellowship in cardiovascular diseases and advanced echocardiography at Columbia. Among his many accomplishments and accolades, Dr. Rodriguez has been a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholar and a recipient of the Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Award, the Association of Black Cardiologists' Hawthorne-Searle Young Investigator Award, and an American Heart Association Clinically Applied Research Grant. He was lead author on the first-ever Scientific Statement on Cardiovascular Health among Hispanic/Latinos in the United States and served on the highest-level scientific committee of the American Heart Association. A board-certified cardiologist, he has authored over 200 published articles and book chapters, and has mentored numerous early-career investigators over the years.



Azizi Seixas, PhD is an Assistant Professor at NYU Langone Health, in the Department of Population Health and Department of Psychiatry. Dr. Seixas' research broadly focuses on three areas: 1) multilevel determinants of sleep, brain and mental health, aging, and cardiovascular disease disparities, 2) long-term health consequences of cardiovascular disease (CVD) and mental health disparities, and 3) developing adaptive, group-tailored, and personalized behavior modification interventions, with the use of machine learning analytical tools, to improve health and well-being.



Pamela D. Straker, PhD is the Director of Operations for the Brooklyn Health Disparities Center (BHDC) and Research Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine/College of Medicine at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University. She is a licensed psychologist who has also had extensive experience in management of, and consultation to, not for profit organizations and programs serving populations in which the greatest health disparities have existed. Dr. Straker has also had significant experience with community based organizations, private funders, policy makers, and governmental entities, has taught on the undergraduate and graduate levels, and has implemented programs across Brooklyn and in Manhattan. Dr. Straker served as a Trainer and Program Coach at Yale University for Emotional Literacy within the Psychology Department, has provided consulting services to the primary and higher education systems, and has served as a psychologist peer reviewer for the Optum Health/United Health Group. She provides evaluation, coaching and psychotherapeutic services for a range of populations. During her career she has provided individual, family and group therapy, offered technical assistance, and served in foster care, Head Start, and other human service agencies. She has appeared as a guest on numerous television and radio programs. Dr. Straker holds a doctoral degree in School- Community Psychology from Hofstra University, where she also received a master's

degree and has achieved alumna status at Columbia University's Executive Level Institute for Not-for-Profit Management. She earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Rochester. In her role with BHDC, she provides administrative coordination, project management, development, instruction, and support for the Center and its researchers. As well, she oversees all Center HR, finances, facilities, and grants administration.



Lakia Maxwell, MPH received a Master's in Community Health at Hofstra University in 2016. Ms. Maxwell joined The Brooklyn Health Disparities Center (BHDC) in 2014 and serves as Research Education Coordinator. In that capacity, Ms. Maxwell provides support for the Center's Executive Team in submission of NIH and other grant proposals. She has developed and maintained web based and social media communications, brochures, pamphlets among many other products. Ms. Maxwell is engaged in program planning and designing, as well as, the implementation of research activities. She is also the Internship coordinator and mentor for the BHDC'S summer mentor program which consists of both high school and college students. Through her learning experiences she is able to offer multiple skills including but not limited to Program Evaluation, Survey Design, Graphic Design, Logic Model Development, SMART Goal and Objective Development, as well as Budget and Timeline Development. She has also assisted with both Community Based Participatory Research and Community Engaged Research in which she has a passion for. Additionally, Ms. Maxwell is a professor at SUNY Empire State College where she teaches "Introduction to Community and Public Health."



Elizabeth Jean-Jacques, MPA, is the Director, Clinical Partnerships at Healthfirst. She started her career at Metis Associates, an educational consulting company. She then moved on to Community Service Society of New York, an independent, nonprofit organization. CSS assists underserved New Yorkers with navigating the health care system. Elizabeth started at Healthfirst as a consultant in Medical Management and worked her way up to Director, Clinical Partnerships. Her current portfolio includes clinical transformation and practice optimization. Elizabeth brings almost 20 years of experience in the nonprofit and for-profit sector. She has her Master's in Public Administration and Bachelor's in Health Care Administration from Long Island University.

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