



HEALTH EQUITY SUMMIT

SEPTEMBER 15-16, 2021

Agenda

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

1:00 - 1:25 p.m. | Fireside Chat with Daniel Dawes

This fireside chat examined the roles of systemic racism and discrimination as intrinsic and inseparable parts of health equity conversations as well as acknowledging the generational harms that health inequities have caused – and outline a path forward.

Speakers:

- **Daniel E. Dawes, J.D.**, Executive Director, Satcher Health Leadership Institute, Morehouse School of Medicine
- **Sarah J. Dash, MPH**, President and CEO, Alliance for Health Policy (*moderator*)

1:30 - 2:25 p.m. | Towards Better Health for All: Hearing from Underrepresented Voices in the Health Equity Dialogue

To be fully inclusive, health policy conversations must account for health disparities among diverse populations with unique needs as well as consider the intersection of socially determinant factors like age, gender, rurality, and physical ability, as well as race. In this session, we were joined by an array of experts who discussed unique inequities at varying intersections of health, and policy options to achieve optimal health for all Americans.

Speakers:

- **Kara B. Ayers, Ph.D.**, Associate Director, UCEDD, Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, and Assistant Professor, University of California Department of Pediatrics
- **Sean Cahill, Ph.D.**, Director of Health Policy Research, Fenway Health
- **M. Roy Wilson**, President, Wayne State University (*moderator*)

2:30 - 3:25 p.m. | Measuring for an Equitable Future

The potential for big data applications in health care is undeniable. When leveraged, data can help can make informed decisions related to course of treatment, and coverage eligibility. However, even data algorithms, metrics and measures are not immune from bias. This bias can have serious impacts on how we evaluate clinical trials, provider performance, patient reported outcomes, and health care quality

and can unintentionally perpetuate the very inequities that health leaders are trying to address. This session explored tradeoffs of representation in medical coding, sampling, and quality improvement assessments as well as actionable next steps to ensure objectivity in big data. Panelists also discussed how to ensure that data is translated into unbiased information and policy options to bring us closer to a more equitable health care future.

Speakers:

- **Irene Dankwa-Mullan, M.D., MPH**, Chief Health Equity Officer, IBM Watson Health, IBM Corporation
- **Rebecca Johnson, MBA**, Principal and Senior Healthcare Consultant, Milliman
- **Cara V. James, Ph.D.**, President and CEO, Grantmakers in Health (*moderator*)

Thursday, September 16

1:00 - 1:55 p.m. | The Cost of Health Inequity: Dollars and Sense

Inequities are not a new issue in the United States. However, the pandemic coupled with eye-opening tragedies that garnered international attention, has put health equity and health justice at top of mind for many. The pandemic has been the health policy community's greatest teacher. If ever it was questioned before, we now understand just how under-prepared, inequitable, and siloed facets of our health system really are. This session explored the cost implications of inaction to address health inequities in terms of additional national health expenditures and lost productivity. Panelists also spoke to the returns on investment in equitable interventions.

Speakers:

- **Darrell J. Gaskin, Ph.D., M.S.**, Director, Hopkins Center for Health Disparities Solutions, Department of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- **Annette V. James, MAAA, FSA, FCA**, Chairperson, Health Equity Work Group, American Academy of Actuaries
- **Ani Turner, M.A.**, Senior Economist, Altarum
- **Adaeze Enekwechi, Ph.D., MPP**, Operating Partner, Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe (*moderator*)

2:00 - 3:55 p.m. | Spotlight Conversations on Equity in Health Care

Lightening-round discussions broken into 30-minute sessions:

Part I: Inclusion in Innovation

This session illustrated the importance of diversity in research teams and clinical trials to ensure effectiveness across American subpopulations. Our speaker provided case examples to explore successful approaches to create a more equitable clinical research cycle and ensure that we include diverse stakeholders at every step to build trust in science, medicine, and public health communication.

Part II: Representation in Clinical Practice and Medical Education.

This session examined how representation in the clinical workforce, implicit bias awareness, and the promotion of medical education curricula without aspects that are not rooted in biology lead to trust, quality care, and better health outcomes for all Americans.

Part III: Families in Waiting, Birth, and Child Health

The session examined the most promising efforts to mitigate poor birth and child health outcomes. Speakers used case examples and descriptive statistics to demonstrate the benefits of these interventions and policy options that can be leveraged to scale and expand these efforts.

Part IV: Translation to Action – State Policy Approaches

This session explored state-level efforts to incorporate health equity approaches into their health and human services programs, including lessons learned from the front lines of the pandemic.

Speakers:

- **Yasmeen Long, M.A.**, Director, FasterCures, a Center of the Milken Institute
- **Jewel Mullen, M.D., MPH, MPA**, Associate Dean for Health Equity, Associate Professor of Population Health and Internal Medicine, and Director of Health Equity Ascension Seton, Dell Medical School, The University of Texas at Austin
- **Usha Ranji, M.S.**, Associate Director, Women's Health Policy, Kaiser Family Foundation
- **Hemi Tewarson**, Executive Director, National Academy for State Health Policy
- **Tanisha Carino, Ph.D.**, Corporate Director, Silk Road Medical, Inc. (*moderator*)

4:00 – 4:30 p.m. | Fireside Chat with CMS Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure

This fireside chat closed the Summit by discussing federal opportunities to advance health equity. Administrator Brooks-LaSure highlighted lessons learned from the pandemic and national tragedies and how we are uniquely positioned to begin building a more equitable health care system right now.

Speakers:

- **Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, MPP**, Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, US Department of Health and Human Services; Former Deputy Director for Policy, CMS Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight
- **Reed V. Tuckson, M.D.**, Managing Director, Tuckson Health Connections and Chair, Board of Directors, Alliance for Health Policy (*moderator*)