

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Michael Pine

President, MPA Healthcare Solutions, Inc.

Since 1988, Dr. Pine has assisted scores of hospitals, clinicians and others to analyze and evaluate data on clinical quality and healthcare delivery and to apply the findings to their clinical and managerial decisions. He recently completed a series of studies on the use of hybrid databases for performance assessment and comparative effectiveness research for AHRQ. Dr. Pine has been on the medical faculties of major academic medical centers, has performed original research in basic science, clinical medicine, and health services management and evaluation. He has co-authored a manual on “Measuring and Managing Health Care Quality” and a “Guide to Developing and Implementing a Value-Centered Benefits Plan.” He has written numerous chapters and articles on monitoring and improving the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care services and has been published in a wide range of peer reviewed scientific journals.

Dr. Pine is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Cardiology. He has served on the medical faculties of Harvard, the University of California at Irvine, the University of Cincinnati, and the University of Chicago. He received an M.D. from the Harvard Medical School and an M.B.A. from the University of Cincinnati School of Business. Dr. Pine has been a long-time member of the Program Committee for NAHDO's Annual Meeting and is co-chair of the Program Committee for this year's meeting. He has been a frequent speaker and panel moderator at NAHDO's Annual Meetings and, in 2008, received NAHDO's Eliot Stone of Excellence in Health Data Leadership.

Jo Porter

Interim Director, Institute for Health Policy and Practice, University of New Hampshire

Jo Porter, MPH, serves as Interim Director for the Institute for Health Policy and Practice in the College of Health and Human Services at the University of New Hampshire. In this role, she has oversight responsibility across IHPP, and does project specific work in the Health Analytics and Informatics focus area. She serves as co-chair of the national All-Payer Claims Database Council (APCD Council: www.apcdouncil.org), a learning network for state APCD development. Jo's background includes several years of health care-related project management and program development experience in the private and public sectors. Her research interests are in health data collection and dissemination, and using data to effectively improve health care quality. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology, with a minor in Health Management and Policy from University of New Hampshire, and a Master of Public Health with dual concentrations in Epidemiology/Biostatistics and Social and Behavioral Health from Boston University.

Al Prysunka

Director, All Payer Claims Database Products, Milliman MedInsight

Al Prysunka is responsible for: prioritization and design of the analytics and functionality of state and community coalition APCD products; and oversight, acceptance, functionality, implementation and hosting of those products. Prior to joining Milliman in 2012, he was the Executive Director of the Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO), an independent agency of Maine State Government, for 15 years. While at the MHDO, he was responsible for the collection and distribution of: all-payer/all-provider statewide claims data, hospital data (inpatient, outpatient, emergency department, financial), and quality data. In developing the structure for Maine's claims data submission requirements, he was the first state to acquire and merge the Medicare Part A, B, C, D and Medicaid claims data with commercial claims data. While at the MHDO, he served on a number of national and state level boards and committees, including:

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National Association of Health Data Organizations (2004–2012); AHRQ HCUP Steering Committee (2008–2011); All Payer Claims Database Council (2007–2012); Maine Health Data Processing Board (2003–2012); Maine Quality Forum Advisory Council (2006–2012); and Maine Health Information Technology Steering Committee (2010–2012). After joining Milliman, he has continued to serve on the NAHDO Board as an at large member.

Patrick Romano

Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, University of California, Davis

Dr. Patrick Romano is Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at the University of California Davis and co-Editor in Chief of Health Services Research (HSR), an official journal of AcademyHealth. He is a graduate of Princeton University, Georgetown University School of Medicine, and the UC Berkeley School of Public Health. He completed training in internal medicine and pediatrics at University Hospitals of Cleveland, and fellowship training in health services research at UCSF. His research interests include developing, testing, and validating health care quality measures, using outcomes data to improve the quality and effectiveness of health care, and studying the role of physicians and nurses in optimizing quality and safety. Over the past several years, he has led the team responsible for converting the AHRQ Quality Indicators from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM/PCS.

Barbara A. Rudolph

Senior Scientist, Center for Health Systems Research & Analysis, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dr. Rudolph, Ph.D., MSSW, has served as a consultant to NAHDO since 2003. Her responsibilities include technical assistance in data standards, performance measurement and public reporting. Dr. Rudolph also serves as a state representative for the PHDSC on the National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC) and the National Uniform Claim Committee (NUCC), and is a member of the Expected Source of Payment Typology Committee. She is a co-author with NAHDO staff on a number of briefing papers, white papers and journal articles on data collection and dissemination, data privacy, and statistical methods. She concurrently serves as a Senior Scientist, for the Center for Health Systems Research and Analysis, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Prior positions include: Senior Science Director for the Leapfrog Group, Director of the State of Wisconsin, Bureau of Health Information; Study Director at the National Opinion Research Center (NORC), University of Chicago. Prior to these positions she held a number of clinician and administrator positions in health and mental health organizations.

Dr. Rudolph received her Ph.D. at UW-Madison in 1996 in Social Welfare (with a focus on health services research), and a MSSW at UW-Madison in 1976. , Ph.D., MSSW

Kyle Russell

APCD Program Manager, Virginia Health Information

Kyle Russell is the APCD Program Manager for Virginia Health Information (VHI). As Program Manager he oversees all data collection, analysis, reporting and client relations for the Virginia All Payer Claims Database. Prior to joining VHI, Kyle was a manager with HCA Health System in billing and revenue cycle operations. Kyle is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Analytics from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). He also earned his Bachelors degree from VCU, graduating with Honors in Finance.

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Jenney Samuelson

Assistant Director, Department of Vermont Health Access, Blueprint for Health

Ms. Samuelson, MS, MCHES, leads the Blueprint Expansion and Quality Improvement Program (EQuIP) which consists of a team of practice facilitators who assist over one-hundred adult, family, and pediatric primary care practices to implement continuous quality improvement and patient centered medical home recognition. In addition, Ms. Samuelson oversees the Blueprint community-based self-management programs including statewide implementation of the Stanford Chronic Disease, Chronic Pain, and Diabetes Self-management Programs; the Vermont Tobacco Quit in Person Program; Wellness Recovery Action Planning (WRAP); and the YMCAs Diabetes Prevention Program.

Over the past decade Ms. Samuelson has administered diverse community and statewide public health programs including leading a four county health careers workforce development program, quality improvement with health systems to support tobacco cessation in primary care practices and directing the State of Vermont's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

Joanne Sarachine

Product Manager, DataBay Resources

As product manager of DataBay Resources, Joanne Sarachine is responsible for strategic planning and successful execution of the organization's business development and marketing goals for a comprehensive suite of IT solutions including CheckNet – an internet based data cleansing and reporting tool that streamlines data correction by allowing users to validate and edit UB-04 discharge data for accuracy, prior to submitting it to a state data collection organization or hospital associations.

Sarachine's diverse career in healthcare spans more than 25 years and includes positions in project management, information technology (IT) application development and implementation, and nursing. She has extensive knowledge of software product management as well as analyzing healthcare data, claims, discharge data and strategic planning.

Lucia Savage

Chief Privacy Officer, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

Lucia Savage joined the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, Department of Health & Human Services in October 2014 as the Chief Privacy Officer. Lucia was the Senior Associate General Counsel at UnitedHealthcare, where she supervised a team that represents UnitedHealthcare in its work in large data transactions related to health information exchanges, healthcare transparency projects, and other data-driven health care innovation projects. She has served on the Governance Board of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Multi-Payer Claims data base project (2011-2013), and collaborated with health information exchanges and state agencies in their planning with payers.

Prior to joining UnitedHealthcare, Lucia was General Counsel at the non-profit Pacific Business Group on Health, where she oversaw the legal affairs and state policy initiatives for one of the nation's oldest employer healthcare purchasing coalitions and its small group health insurance exchange, PacAdvantage. At PBGH, Lucia applied her 15 years of experience as an employee benefit attorney, in both compliance and litigation, and expanded her practice to include healthcare regulation, data transactions, and health care reform, and HIPAA implementation. Before joining PBGH, she served as Stanford University's benefits compliance officer.

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Craig Schneider

Senior Health Researcher, Mathematica Policy Research

Dr. Schneider has been a leader in promoting accountable care, developing and implementing payment reform strategies, and engaging stakeholders across the health care system to improve consumer engagement, efficiency, and quality throughout his 23-year career. He is currently the Project Director of the Learning Systems for Accountable Care Organizations project for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, which develops and implements curriculum for the Pioneer, Shared Savings Program, End-Stage Renal Disease, and Next Generation ACO models. He is also the co-author of a chapter in the 2015 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation annual health IT report on the topic of big data in health care. His previous role was Director of Healthcare Policy at the Massachusetts Health Data Consortium, where he co-chaired several learning collaboratives, including those related to payment reform, electronic health record implementation, care transitions, health information exchange, and quality reporting; and planned five major health conferences each year. Dr. Schneider worked at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Boston regional office for 14 years in a number of positions encompassing provider reimbursement, quality improvement, beneficiary services and outreach, and health care reform. Based upon this diverse experience, Dr. Schneider was selected as the CMS liaison to the Bridges to Excellence and Prometheus private sector pay-for-performance initiatives. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of New England HIMSS, and on the Board of the National Association of Health Data Organizations as NAHDO's Programs Chair. He received a doctorate in Health Policy from the Brandeis University Heller School for Social Policy and Management, and a Master in Business Administration degree from Boston University.

Claudia Schur

Vice President and Director of the Center for Health Research and Policy, Social and Scientific Systems, Inc.

Claudia L. Schur specializes in applying quantitative analytic methods to address a broad range of health care issues. She has been involved in development and analysis of Maryland's private payer claims database for almost 15 years, conducting analyses of spending patterns by insurance market, state spending trends, and payment rates for professional services. She also contributes to the CMMI-funded evaluation of ACO models and studied physician payment under Medicare for the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation and the American Academy of Physicians.

Joseph Smith

Chief Medical and Science Officer, West Health Institute

Dr. Joseph M. Smith is chief medical and science officer of the West Health Institute, an independent, non-profit medical research organization focused on helping seniors age successfully. Dr. Smith has extensive experience at the intersection of clinical medicine and engineering, including scientific leadership roles at Johnson & Johnson and at Guidant/Boston Scientific. He previously practiced cardiology for almost 20 years.

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Srinivas Sridhara

Chief, Division of Cost & Quality Analysis, Maryland Health Care Commission

Srinivas Sridhara, PhD MHS is the Chief of the Division of Cost and Quality Analysis at the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC), where he manages Maryland's All Payer Claims Database and reports on health care utilization and expenditure trends and analyses of health insurance markets. In addition, Dr. Sridhara leads the Maryland Health Workforce Study, which aims to improve data systems for workforce data and report on the supply of and demand for health care providers. Dr. Sridhara also manages MHCC's data releases. Dr. Sridhara previously worked at Johns Hopkins University and Baltimore Mental Health Systems.

Manuela Staneva

Epidemiologist, Mississippi State Department of Health

Manuela Staneva is an epidemiologist for the Mississippi State Department of Health, where she evaluates, analyzes, and interprets hospital discharge data. In addition to producing annual reports, she uses hospital discharge data to build surveillance and monitoring systems for issues of public health interest such as chronic diseases, maternal morbidity, infant mortality, and drug abuse. She has a medical degree from Sofia Medical University in Bulgaria and a MPH in epidemiology and biostatistics from the University of Southern Mississippi. Before coming to the United States, Ms. Staneva worked as a primary care physician and as an infectious disease doctor in her native Bulgaria.

Claudia Steiner

Research Medical Officer, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Claudia A. Steiner, M.D., M.P.H., is an internist who conducts and manages research for the Center. She helps with the design, management and dissemination of the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP). Her research interests include the influence of ambulatory surgery on standards of care, utilization and clinical outcomes; the epidemiology of infectious diseases, including healthcare associated infections; and the prevalence and factors associated with readmissions to the acute care setting, and the use and impact of new medical technologies. Dr. Steiner has experience with both primary and secondary data, including a national survey of health insurers, and the administrative databases of HCUP.

Dr. Steiner has published in The New England Journal of Medicine, The Journal of the American Medical Association, The Journal of General Internal Medicine, The International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care, The American Journal of Managed Care, and Medical Care. She referees papers for these same journals.

Diane Stollenwerk

President, StollenWerks, Inc.

Diane Stollenwerk is also a Commissioner on the Maryland Health Care Commission, which oversees performance measurement and public reporting on health care in Maryland. Until 2014, she served as a technical expert on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services panel regarding the National Impact Assessment of CMS Quality Measures. Diane is a former vice president at the National Quality Forum, leading NQF's work in engaging and supporting a range of stakeholders at the local, state and national levels in the practical aspects of measuring and reporting on performance to improve health and health care. Prior to moving to the Washington DC area, Diane was a founding director of the nationally

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recognized Washington Health Alliance in the Pacific Northwest, a successful coalition involving business, consumers, government, providers, health plans and others, which produces the Community Checkup report to improve health and health care. She was the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded Aligning Forces for Quality project director for the region and the Chartered Value Exchange liaison to the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Diane has a masters degree in public policy from Harvard University and a bachelors in English from San Diego State University, where she earned national recognition in persuasive speaking.

Heather Strosnider

Epidemiologist, Environmental Health Tracking Branch, Center for Disease Control & Prevention

Heather Strosnider has served as an epidemiologist for CDC's Environmental Health Tracking Branch since 2006. Her primary responsibilities are to develop environmental health indicators and measures, identify appropriate analytic and data visualization methods, and monitor the impact of environment on health in order to guide public health action and policy. Strosnider received a MPH from Emory University and a BS in Biology from West Virginia University. She is also a PhD candidate in the Environmental Health Science program at Emory University.

Remy Szykier

Principal, Aegis Health Security

Kristy Thornton

Senior Manager, Center for Healthcare Transparency

CHT's purpose is to make meaningful and reliable provider cost information readily available for 50% of the US by 2020. Kristy's work includes overseeing innovations pilot projects to test novel methodological approaches to making high value performance information available to the public. Kristy has a nearly a decade of experience in healthcare transparency with expertise in claims data, ambulatory performance measurement and non-profit governance. Kristy serves as the PBGH representative to the Integrated Healthcare Association Technical Measurement Committee and previously managed the California Healthcare Performance Information System.

Norman Thurston

Director, Office of Health Care Statistics, Utah Department of Health

Norman Thurston, Ph.D. is the Director of the Office of Health Care Statistics (OHCS) for the State of Utah. OHCS is responsible for collecting data from the health care system on cost and quality, including the APCD, facilities databases, CAHPS, and HEDIS. Before taking this position in September 2013, Dr. Thurston was the Health Reform Implementation Coordinator for the Governor's Office and has been a policy adviser on health reform since 2005. He has a Ph.D. in economics from Princeton University and was on the economics faculty at Brigham Young University from 1995-2003. Dr. Thurston was recently elected to the Utah House of Representatives and serves on the Health and Human Services committee.

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Lucas Tramontozzi

VP, Data Strategy, SCI Solutions

Lucas Tramontozzi, a self-professed “data nerd”, serves as the Data Strategist with SCI Solutions, Inc. where he applies accumulated data to demonstrate value-in-use for clients that utilize the most ubiquitous referral management and network scheduling platforms in the health industry. He previously served as the Chief Technology Officer at the Department of Health and Hospital incubating innovation within a forward thinking State agency via strategic business alignment, operations, and partner collaboration. He also served as the Chief Data Officer overseeing enterprise-wide strategic plans for data integration, processing, mining, business intelligence and advanced analytics and provides executive stewardship of all data assets. He has been an active contributor to the body of healthcare knowledge serving on multiple boards, including the National Association for Health Data Organizations, the Advisory Board of the National Science Foundation’s Center for Visual and Decision Informatics, and other thought leadership organizations.

Jay Want

Owner & Principal, Want Healthcare LLC / Chief Medical Officer, Center for Improving Value in Health Care

Jay Want, MD, consults for a wide variety of clients, including the Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. He is also the Chief Medical Officer for the nonprofit Center for Improving Value in Health Care (CIVHC), a public-private partnership that houses data from the state’s All Payer Claims Database, and supplies those data to the public and private entities to the benefit of the people of the state. He serves on the board of the non-profit Rocky Mountain Health Plan, based in Grand Junction, Colorado. In January 2012, he was appointed an Innovation Advisor for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). He also currently serves as a commissioner on the Colorado Commission for Affordable Health Care (CCAHC). He is an affiliate member of Atul Gawande’s Ariadne Labs.