Virtual Cancer Policy Roundtable  
March 26, 2020  
Speaker Biographies

Cancer in the Next Decade

Otis W. Brawley, MD is a globally-recognized expert in cancer prevention and control. He has worked to reduce overscreening of medical conditions, which has revolutionized patient treatment by increasing quality of life and reducing health disparities.

Brawley’s research focuses on developing cancer screening strategies and ensuring their effectiveness. He has championed efforts to decrease smoking and implement other lifestyle risk reduction programs, as well as to provide critical support to cancer patients and concentrate cancer control efforts in areas where they could be most effective. Brawley currently leads a broad interdisciplinary research effort on cancer health disparities at the Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center, striving to close racial, economic, and social disparities in the prevention, detection, and treatment of cancer in the United States and worldwide. He also directs community outreach programs for underserved populations throughout Maryland.

Brawley joined Johns Hopkins University as a Bloomberg Distinguished Professor in 2019 from the American Cancer Society and Emory University.

End-of-Life Care for Cancer Patients

Kimberly Acquaviva, PhD, MSW, CWE is the Betty Norman Norris Endowed Professor at the University of Virginia School of Nursing, is nationally known as an innovator and authority on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and/or questioning (LGBTQ) aging and end-of-life issues as well as a leader on interprofessional aging research and policy. She is member of the Academy of Distinguished Teacher and winner of the 2011 Bender Teaching Award. Dr. Acquaviva was previously a professor at George Washington University School of Nursing, where she was a tenured professor and founding faculty member. In her 15 years at GW, she served in a number of roles, including director of the National Collaborative on Aging and associate dean for faculty affairs.

Early in her career, Kim – a social worker and scholar – cared for patients and families facing life-limiting illness in hospitals and hospice settings, work that ultimately shaped her research interest in LGBTQ aging and end-of-life issues. Kim is also well-versed in other healthcare domains, too, including high-tech approaches to boosting clinicians’ emergency preparedness. During her time at George Washington University, she played key roles on interdisciplinary teams that have secured millions of dollars of external funding. One of these projects,
National Nurse Emergency Preparedness Initiative, received $2 million in funding from the Department of Homeland Security and resulted in an online course that more than 50,000 nurses have completed to date.

In the classroom, Kim has taught topics that touch both nursing and medicine. At George Washington University, she taught population health, evidence-based practice, grant writing, health policy, and research project proposal courses – as well as offering guest lectures on academic dishonesty and how to take a sexual history. At the University of Virginia, she teaches health policy and grant writing to a mix of undergraduate and graduate students, and she works closely with our Center for Interprofessional Collaborations (formerly known as the Center for ASPIRE) to support its grant-writing, advance its work and goals, champion IPE beyond the university’s boundaries and engage in its twice-annual T3 Faculty Development Program as a teacher, facilitator and participant.

A Fulbright Scholar, an award-winning educator, a much-feted LGBTQ advocate, and an often-tapped national leader and scholar, Kim was drawn to the University of Virginia School of Nursing in large part because of its healthy work environment and inclusivity initiatives. Kim’s “em dash” podcasts range from episodes featuring LGBTQ individuals sharing their experiences navigating the healthcare system to episodes in which persons with disabilities talk about reclaiming their space; the podcast amplifies a wonderful variety of voices that are not often heard – and should be.

An often-published scholar in the academic and lay media alike, Kim’s book, LGBTQ-Inclusive Hospice and Palliative Care: A Practical Guide to Transforming Professional Practice (Columbia University Press: 2017), received the American Journal of Nursing’s Book of the Year Award in the Palliative Care and Hospice category. Currently, she’s working on a book about her experiences caring for her wife, a fellow hospice and palliative care expert, as her family navigates the healthcare system and the dying process.

She has a PhD in Human Sexuality Education from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education, a MSW in Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice, and a BA in Sociology from the University of Pennsylvania College of Arts and Sciences. She is a Certified Sexuality Educator (CSE), Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) and Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW).

Blake Farmer is Nashville Public Radio’s senior health care reporter. In a partnership with Kaiser Health News and NPR, Blake covers health in Tennessee and the health care industry in the Nashville area for local and national audiences.

Blake Farmer has worked at WPLN throughout his career, most recently serving as news director and primary editor for the newsroom. Previously, his reporting focused on education and the military. He’s also enjoyed producing stories about midnight frog gigging and churches holding gun raffles.

Growing up in East Nashville, Blake attended Lipscomb Academy. He went to college in Texas at Abilene Christian University where he cut his teeth in radio at KACU-FM. Before joining WPLN full time in 2007, Blake also wrote for the Nashville City Paper and filed international stories for World Christian Broadcasting.
Donna Gentry is 69 years old, with Mantle Cell Lymphoma in remission. Like many of us, she has had family, friends and colleagues who battled cancer. Over the years, the concept of cancer began to include both what one can control, and what lies beyond one’s control. Her interest in end of life care grew as she was caring for her husband who had Lewy Body Dementia, while simultaneously dealing with her own cancer that has no cure. She became familiar with Hospice care teams, palliative medical care, support groups, and some deeper concepts of mortality and quality of life. This guided her to comfortably carry out her husband’s advanced directives and to update and expand her own.

She has enjoyed 44 years working as a Pediatric Audiologist, and then a Speech Language Pathologist, at the NY League for the Hard of Hearing, The Institute for Child Development at Hackensack University Medical Center, and last with Montgomery Country Public Schools. She treasured working with her patients and their families. What she is most appreciates is the continuing advances in technology that improved communication access, as well as identifying one’s strengths to help overcome or compensate for one’s areas of need. Donna has three wonderful children who live in Massachusetts, Colorado and DC; and seven precious grandchildren, ages one through six. She enjoys time with family and friends, cooking, reading, gardening and biking.

Lisa D. T. Rice, SM is a political strategist with extensive experience in corporate, trade association and nonprofit settings, including 15 years’ experience in political and external affairs. In her leadership roles, Ms. Rice is an influential advocate for causes she supports, including quality cancer care, women’s health and empowerment, racial justice, and social media activism.

A volunteer member of the NCCS Cancer Policy and Advocacy Team, Lisa spoke on the Cancer Care Planning panel at the June 2018 CPAT symposium. At the March 2018 NCCS Cancer Policy Roundtable, she participated in a panel on Overtreatment & Overdiagnosis. She has advocated on Capitol Hill with NCCS in 2016 and 2017, for the PACT Act (H.R. 2846) and the #ProtectOurCare campaign, respectively. A veteran of multiple industry policy visits on Capitol Hill, Lisa has coached cancer survivors on how to deliver succinct, compelling personal stories and accompanied them on constituent visits to their members of Congress. Lisa has two posts on the Cancer Policy Matters blog.

Lisa holds a Master of Science degree from the MIT Sloan School of Management. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Newcomb College of Tulane University. She serves on the boards of directors of Unite America, PLEN and the Newcomb Alumnae Association. She is also an NCCS board member.

A native Washingtonian, she lives in the District with her husband, Tom Thompson.
Andrew MacPherson is a Managing Partner at Healthsperie, LLC, with nearly two decades of health care legislative and regulatory policy and political experience. As Managing Partner, Andrew leads a team of experts who specialize in developing in-depth legislative and regulatory policy strategies, analyses, and strategic advocacy and communications for a wide-range of health care organizations, including Fortune 100 businesses, national health plans, professional associations, issue-based coalitions, and not-for-profit providers.

Andrew has a special emphasis and regularly speaks to national audiences on policy and political issues related to person-centered health care delivery transformation, including the crisis of social isolation and loneliness in the U.S., value-based insurance design (V-BID), and person-centered advanced illness and end-of-life care delivery. Andrew has been featured in variety of national media outlets on a range of health policy issues, including The Washington Post, Health Affairs, and National Public Radio.

Prior to launching Healthsperie in 2012, Andrew was Founder and Principal of MacPherson Strategic, Inc., a health care policy, legislative strategy, and communications consulting firm. MacPherson Strategic served a diverse set of health care stakeholder clients, including consumer groups, broad-based advocacy coalitions, innovative health care start-ups, and the large public sector health care purchasers.

Prior to founding MacPherson Strategic, Andrew served as Director of Government Affairs at Jennings Policy Strategies, Inc. (JPS), a nationally recognized health policy consulting firm led by Chris Jennings, Former Senior Health Care Advisor to President Barack Obama and previously to President Bill Clinton. From 2007-2013, Andrew staffed a wide variety of client and pro bono initiatives in the policy, political, and communications arenas with JPS, Inc., including the Obama for America and Hillary Clinton for President presidential campaigns, the Bipartisan Policy Center health reform project with former Majority Leaders Baker, Daschle, Dole and Mitchell, and the Clinton Global Initiative.

From 2001-2006, Andrew worked for a range of policy and political organizations and elected officials, including the American Psychiatric Association (APA), Senator Carl Levin (D-Mich.), Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), the Democratic Governors’ Association, the Vermont Democratic Party, and Penn, Schoen & Berland Associates, Inc., a market research and strategic communications consulting firm based in Washington, D.C.

Originally from Vermont, Andrew received a B.A. in Political Science from The George Washington University in May 2005.
Cancer Rehabilitation as a Survivorship Care Model

Michael D. Stubblefield, MD is a nationally and internationally recognized leader in the field of cancer rehabilitation. His clinical expertise is in the identification, evaluation and rehabilitation of neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, pain and functional disorders resulting from cancer and its treatment, particularly those caused by radiation and neurotoxic chemotherapy. He is an expert electromyographer and performs procedures such as botulinum toxin (Botox) injections for the relief of pain and spasm in cancer survivors.

Dr. Stubblefield graduated with honors from Brown University in Providence, RI, where he double majored in biology and philosophy. He received his medical degree from the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and completed a combined residency in internal medicine and physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R) at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City. He is triple board certified in (PM&R), internal medicine, and electrodiagnostic medicine (EMG).

Dr. Stubblefield worked at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center for nearly 14 years and was the Chief of the Rehabilitation Medicine Service. He joined Kessler Institute as Medical Director of Cancer Rehabilitation in 2015. He also serves as the National Medical Director of Cancer Rehabilitation for Select Medical where he oversees the development of comprehensive cancer rehabilitation programs across the organization’s national network of rehabilitation facilities.

Named one of America’s top doctors, America’s top doctors for cancer, and New York metro area’s top doctors by Castle Connolly for many years, Dr. Stubblefield is an accomplished researcher, and has published extensively in medical rehabilitation, oncology, pain management, palliative care, and neurophysiology. He serves on the editorial board of the journal Muscle and Nerve, and is a peer reviewer for more than 30 journals. Most notably, Dr. Stubblefield is the senior editor of Cancer Rehabilitation: Principles and Practice, the only comprehensive textbook in the field, and has also authored numerous review articles and book chapters in the field of cancer rehabilitation.

Dr. Stubblefield has given hundreds of lectures both nationally and internationally on a wide range of cancer rehabilitation-related topics. He has also served on the Board of the American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine and as Chair of the Medical Council of the American Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.
The Oncology Care Model and the Proposed Oncology Care First Model

**Hillary Cavanagh, MA** serves as the model lead for the potential Oncology Care First (OCF) Model at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). In this role, Hillary leads CMS’s efforts on the development of a potential new model for value-based payment to support high-quality oncology care. Prior to serving as the model lead for the potential Oncology Care First Model, Hillary worked in CMS’s Office of Legislation serving as a technical expert for the analysis of legislation relating to Medicare Part B coverage and payment policy issues. Hillary previously worked at Washington Council Ernst & Young providing legislative and regulatory strategic advisory services for health care clients and also worked at Avalere Health providing health policy and data analysis for health insurance companies, life sciences companies, and patient advocacy groups. Hillary earned her M.A. in health policy from the University of Chicago and her B.A. from the College of William and Mary.

**David Goldstein, MS, OTR/L** serves as the interim model lead for the Oncology Care Model (OCM), at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). The OCM is an episodic, specialty care payment model aimed at enabling improved care coordination, appropriateness of care, and access to care for beneficiaries undergoing chemotherapy. Prior to joining CMMI, David worked as a licensed Occupational Therapist at UC San Diego Medical Center providing hospital-based specialty rehab care to patients with chronic complex care needs, specifically those diagnosed with various cancers, brain injuries and severe burns. David’s background includes work as a federal healthcare management consultant supporting the Navy Bureau of Medicine’s Directorate of Healthcare Business in San Diego, focused on the development of a patient-centered medical home model for Navy beneficiaries as well as advisory work with the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers on their academic and practice-based healthcare “Hotspotting” programs. David received his Master of Science in Occupational Therapy from Thomas Jefferson University.

**Ray Page, DO, PhD, FACOI, FASCO** practices as a medical oncologist and hematologist at The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders in Fort Worth and in Weatherford where he is a strong advocate for the highest quality of patient care. As President, he and his colleagues have created the most comprehensive community cancer care in the north Texas region, ensuring the patient’s journey includes integrated access to all components of the continuum of cancer care.

Dr. Page grew up in Grand Prairie, Texas and received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry and Biology from Southwestern University in 1984. He then received a Master’s Degree in Physiology at Baylor University Graduate School-Baylor College of Dentistry. He entered the nation’s first combined D.O./Ph. D. medical scientist program at the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC) in Fort Worth and in 1991 received his Ph.D. in Pharmacology along with his Doctorate in Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Page completed his residency in internal medicine at the UNTHSC/Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas, and completed a combined oncology/hematology fellowship at the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center.
Dr. Page has been actively engaged administratively in numerous cancer related roles. He currently serves as an ASCO representative to the American Medical Association House of Delegates. He is the Immediate Past Chair of ASCO’s Clinical Practice Committee. He was the previous Chair of ASCO’s State Affiliates Council and is currently the Texas Representative. He previously served on ASCO’s Nominating Committee as the community oncology representative, and on ASCO’s Government Relations Committee. Dr. Page serves on several working groups involving Payment Reform, Clinical Pathways, 340B, Site Neutrality, Provider/Payer relationships, CAC, Drug Pricing and Shortages, PBMs, and the Conquer Cancer Foundation Grant Review Committee.

Dr. Page has been instrumental in the development of a national oncology “Supergroup”, Quality Cancer Care Alliance (QCCA) where he serves on the board, executive committee, and chairs the membership committee. He serves on the Physician Advisory Boards of VitalSource GPO, COTA, and Flatiron Health. Dr. Page is a member of the Elsevier Via Oncology Pathways and serves on the Lung cancer and Melanoma Advisory Panels. He was a member of the Weatherford Regional Medical Center Board of Directors for 7 years and is currently the Chief-of-Staff and serves on several committees, including the Graduate Medical Education Committee for the Internal Medicine residency program. He previously served on the Tarrant County American Cancer Society Board. For 10 years Dr. Page served on the Fort Worth Adolescent Young Adult Cancer Task Force and Board. He also serves on the Board of the Careity Foundation.

As Director of Research, Dr. Page remains at the forefront of new drug development and anticancer therapies which enable patients to get novel cancer treatments closer to home. He has been the Principle Investigator of over 200 oncology clinical trials resulting in a number of scientific publications. He has a special interest in improving chemotherapy drug delivery resulting in better treatment responses and less toxicities and has done collaborate research with Dr. Andreas Lacko at UNTHSC.

Dr. Page is one of four recipients of the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the UNTHSC, awarded in 2004. He was also honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Citation of Merit Award from Southwestern University in 2006. He was also named as the 2010 Distinguished Alumnus at Grand Prairie High School. He was named a “Healthcare Hero” by the Fort Worth Business Press, and for several years has been repeatedly named as a “Top Doctor” by Fort Worth Magazine and a “Texas Super Doctor” by Texas Monthly Magazine. Dr. Page was recently name to the “Texas Super Doctor Hall of Fame” and “Legacy Member” in recognition of being named a “Super Doctor” by Texas Monthly magazine for every year since the program’s inception (16 years).

Kashyap Patel, MD is the CEO of Carolina Blood and Cancer Care Associates. Dr. Patel is a full time practicing medical oncologist, board certified in Hematology, Oncology, and Internal Medicine. He is vice president for the Community Oncology Alliance (COA). He is also chairman of the newly formed Biosimilars committee for the COA. He is a chair elect for the clinical affairs and trustee for the Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC). He is also a member of the CPC committee for the ASCO and NCQA. He has been an advisor for the large payers including DHHS (SC), Palmetto GBA. He also serves on an advisory board for Medicaid HMOs. He has a special interest in health care policy and economics and the end of life care. He recently joined International Oncology Network as medical director. He has expertise in Value Based Care and has successfully led Oncology Care Model pilots with two payers including with CMMI (new division of CMS).

He also has extensive experience on revenue cycle management in oncology and he co-founded a large RCM company that started with 4 employees and now has over 700 employees. He is a certified trainer for physicians “Education in Palliative and End of life Care” and has been a speaker at several different CME events. He is
involved in healthcare economics and is working with major commercial payer on AAPM. He is also contractor medical director for Palmetto GBA (consultant). He is past president of the South Carolina Oncology Society. He has been working directly with cancer patients for the last twenty years. He has served as chairman of several committees in numerous South Carolina hospitals. He has had extensive research experience in the field of oncology and have published and presented articles in journals (nationally and internationally), and has had research merit awards for research in cancer including ASCO merit awards during fellowship. Dr. Patel has extensive legislative experience both at the local and national level. He has testified in state senate as well as has carried out capitol hill briefing on precision medicine.