



## **Presenter Biographies**

### **The Power of Partnership in Research: Applying Patient- Centered Research in Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities**

**Thursday, November 7, 2013**

**Doubletree Albuquerque  
201 Marquette Ave NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87102**



**Anne C. Beal, MD, MPH**

#### **Deputy Executive Director and Chief Officer for Engagement, PCORI**

A pediatrician and public health specialist, Dr. Beal has devoted her career to providing access to high-quality health care. As PCORI's first Chief Officer for Engagement, Dr. Beal is charged with ensuring that the voices of patients and other stakeholders are

reflected in our growing research portfolio. In her role as Deputy Executive Director, she helps to see that PCORI works efficiently and effectively to carry out its mission as the nation's largest research institute focused on patient-centered outcomes research.

Dr. Beal joined PCORI from the Aetna Foundation, the independent charitable and philanthropic arm of Aetna Inc. As President, she led the Foundation's work on improving health care in the United States, particularly for vulnerable patient groups.

Prior to her work at the Aetna Foundation, Dr. Beal was Assistant Vice President for the Program on Health Care Disparities at the Commonwealth Fund, a private foundation that aims to promote a high-performing health care system that achieves better access, improved quality, and greater efficiency, particularly for society's most vulnerable, including low-income people, the uninsured, minority Americans, young children, and elderly adults.

Early in her career, Dr. Beal worked with a mobile medical unit project delivering health care services to children living in homeless shelters throughout New York City. She was also a health services researcher at the Center for Child and Adolescent Health Policy at Massachusetts General Hospital. In addition, she was Associate Director of the Multicultural Affairs Office of Massachusetts General Hospital and attending pediatrician within the division of general pediatrics.

In addition to publishing in the peer-reviewed medical literature, Dr. Beal is also the author of *The Black Parenting Book: Caring for Our Children in the First Five Years* and has been a pediatric commentator and medical correspondent for popular magazines and television shows. Dr. Beal holds a B.A. from Brown University, an M.D. from Cornell University Medical College, and an M.P.H. from Columbia University.



**Susan Sheridan, MBA, MIM**

#### **Director, Patient Engagement, PCORI**

Susan Sheridan is the Deputy Director of Patient Engagement at PCORI. She is responsible for creating networks and engaging patients across the nation to provide broad-based input on the development and execution of PCORI's research. She became involved in

patient safety after her family experienced two serious medical system failures. Her husband, Pat, died in 2002 after his diagnosis of spinal cancer failed to be communicated. Their son, Cal, suffered brain damage called kernicterus five days after his birth in 1995 when his neonatal jaundice was untreated. Sheridan

is Co-Founder and a Past President of Parents of Infants and Children with Kernicterus, which works in partnership with private and public health agencies to eradicate kernicterus. In 2003, she co-founded Consumers Advancing Patient Safety (CAPS), a non-profit organization that seeks a safe, compassionate, and just health care system through proactive partnership between consumers and providers of care. Sheridan served as President of CAPS from 2003 to 2010. From 2004 to 2011, she led the World Health Organization's Patients for Patient Safety initiative, which embraces the collective wisdom of the patient, patient empowerment, and patient-centered care. Sheridan received her BA from Albion College and a MIM and MBA from the Thunderbird School of Global Management.



**Annette Crisanti, PhD**

**Primary Investigator, University of New Mexico, Health Sciences Center**

Annette Crisanti is the Primary Investigator on the PCORI-funded Patient Centered Trauma-Treatment Project. Dr. Crisanti is a psychiatric epidemiologist and faculty member of the University of New Mexico, Department of and Psychiatry's Center for Rural and

Community Behavioral Health.

Dr. Crisanti is originally from Canada, and was on faculty with the University of Hawaii for 14 years prior to moving to New Mexico in 2010. Her research aims to address behavioral health disparities in rural communities and among vulnerable populations by implementing and evaluating innovative approaches to treatment, such as peer-delivered services. Her success in research is based on methodological rigor, cultural sensitivity, and a community-based participatory research approach, where patients are part of the research process.



**Kathy Sutherland-Bruaw, MA**

**Founder, Director and Project Site Coordinator, INSIDE OUT**

Kathy Sutherland-Bruaw is the site project coordinator for the Patient Centered Trauma-Treatment Project. Ms. Sutherland-Bruaw is the director and founder of INSIDE OUT, and is in

recovery from substance abuse. Ms. Sutherland-Bruaw developed INSIDE OUT in an effort to address a myriad of issues that manifested in Espanola as a result of drug addiction. The mission of INSIDE OUT is to address the epidemic of addiction, particularly heroin abuse, in the community through peer support. Within a short time, INSIDE OUT has grown rapidly with many individuals in recovery finding it a safe haven in the community. Ms. Sutherland-Bruaw's work in mental health and substance abuse programs focuses on community organizing, culturally competent service implementation, and peer program innovation.



**Alex Romero, CPSW**

**Program Coordinator, INSIDE OUT**

Alex Romero is the Recruitment Specialist and a Group Leader for the Patient Centered Trauma-Treatment Project. Mr. Romero has been in recovery from addiction for over three years and completed his Certified Peer Support Worker Certificate two years ago. Born and raised in

Espanola, Mr. Romero brings a tremendous amount of insight to conducting research within a rural and ethnicallyracially diverse community. As a Hispanic male, he understands the culture, especially as it relates to addiction and treatment. Mr. Romero first came to INSIDE OUT in his early stages of recovery to complete his GED. Two years later, Mr. Romero is now INSIDE OUT's program coordinator. He is an advocate and leader in the community for 12-step recovery.



**Adam Baca, MA, LPCC**

**Intake Coordinator, Patient-Centered Trauma Treatment for PTSD and Substance Abuse: Is It An Effective Treatment Option?**

Adam Baca is the Intake Coordinator and a Group Leader for the Patient Centered Trauma-Treatment Project. As Intake Coordinator he is responsible for

determining eligibility for all patients enrolled into the study. Mr. Baca grew up in Espanola and his work focuses on co-occurring issues of mental health and substance abuse, traditional healing approaches, and cultural considerations in treatment. Mr. Baca has a long history in providing treatment to Hispanic and Native American populations.



**Lorena Saenz, MA**

**Research Coordinator, Patient-Centered Trauma Treatment for PTSD and Substance Abuse: Is It An Effective Treatment Option?**

Lorena Saenz is the research coordinator for the Patient Centered Trauma-Treatment Project.

She grew up in south Texas and moved to Albuquerque in 2010. Ms. Saenz earned a

Bachelor's degree in Religion and recently completed her Master's degree in Family Studies at the University of New Mexico. She joined the Center for Rural and Community Behavioral Health, Department of Psychiatry, University of New Mexico in February as an evaluator and works on various community-based participatory research projects. She is also involved in her local, church serving in the ministry of Biblical Counseling.



**Suzanne Schrandt, JD**

**Deputy Director, Patient Engagement, PCORI**

Suzanne Schrandt is the Deputy Director of Patient Engagement at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). She is responsible for supporting the Director of Patient Engagement in creating networks and engaging patients across the nation to provide broad-based input on the development and execution of

PCORI's research. Schrandt has been involved in patient education and advocacy since being diagnosed with a form of rheumatoid arthritis as a teenager. For more than 15 years, she has advocated on behalf of children and adults with arthritis and has been engaged in numerous patient and provider education initiatives aimed at increasing early diagnosis and appropriate, patient-centered management of chronic disease.

Schrandt most recently served as the Health Reform Strategy Team Leader for the Kansas Health Institute, where she educated Kansas policy makers, providers, and consumers on the implications of the Affordable Care Act. While there, Schrandt also led the Kansas Legislative Health Academy, an intensive educational experience for select Kansas legislators. Schrandt also previously served as the Coordinator of Public Health and Public Policy for the Arthritis Foundation in Kansas City and as a Research Associate for a Human Genome Research Institute Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues project. Schrandt is a member of the Kansas Bar and the American Health Lawyers Association.



**Dave Hickam, MD, MPH**

**Program Director, Clinical Effectiveness Research, PCORI**

David Hickam is the Program Director of the Clinical Effectiveness Research program at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). He is a specialist in internal medicine and has 30 years of experience as a health services researcher. His past research has focused on strategies for improving health

care outcomes among adults with chronic diseases. He is responsible for developing PCORI's research program that evaluates comparisons among alternative clinical strategies in a broad range of clinical domains. He also provides staff support to the PCORI Methodology Committee.

Dr. Hickam previously held the rank of Professor in the Department of Medicine at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU). He also held a joint faculty appointment in OHSU's Department of Medical Informatics and Epidemiology. He was a senior investigator in the Oregon Evidence-based Practice Center at OHSU and also served as Co-Director of the health services research and development program at the Portland VA Medical Center. He has expertise in a broad range of both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies.

In 2005, he became the founding Director of the John M. Eisenberg Clinical Decisions and Communications Science Center, funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The Eisenberg Center has developed innovative approaches for helping people use evidence-based information to participate in decision making about their health care.

Dr. Hickam received his bachelor's degree from Stanford University, an M.D. degree from the University of California San Francisco, and a Master in Public Health from the University of California Berkeley.



**Chad Boulton, MD, MPH, MBA**

**Program Director, Improving Healthcare Systems, PCORI**

Chad Boulton is Program Director of the Healthcare Systems Improvement program at PCORI. Dr. Boulton came to PCORI from the Johns Hopkins University, where he was a Professor of Health Policy and Management at the Bloomberg School of Public Health and held joint appointments on the faculties of the Schools of Medicine and Nursing. He has worked as a

teacher, a researcher, and a board-certified physician in family medicine and geriatrics.

Dr. Boulton has extensive experience in developing, testing, evaluating, and diffusing new models of health care for older persons with chronic conditions. He has published two books and more than 80 articles in biomedical scientific journals. From 2000 to 2005, he edited the "Models and Systems of Geriatric Care" section of the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, and he has reviewed manuscripts for 20 scientific journals and served as a grant reviewer on study sections of the National Institute on Aging and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. During 2009 to 2011, Dr. Boulton served as a Health and Aging Policy Fellow and a Senior Advisor for Geriatrics and Long-Term Care at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.



**James Hulbert**

**Pre-Award Manager, Contracts, PCORI**

James Hulbert is a Pre-Award Manager for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). He is responsible for designing and implementing training programs for applicants, reviewers, and staff. Hulbert has more than eight years of experience in program

development and research administration. Prior to joining PCORI, Hulbert served as a manager at a non-profit foundation supporting military medical research. For more than six years, he worked closely with investigators to develop, apply, and manage federally funded and industry sponsored research programs around the world.

For the past year, Hulbert worked alongside researchers and clinicians at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center to build new research opportunities. Hulbert attended Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, where he received two degrees, in Sociology and Social Work. In his spare time, he enjoys being outdoors and spending time with friends and family.



**Susan Hildebrandt, MA**

**Director, Stakeholder Engagement, PCORI**

Susan Hildebrandt is the Director of Stakeholder Engagement for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). She is responsible for leading PCORI's engagement with clinicians, policy makers, professional audiences, and the broader

health care community. Hildebrandt is an experienced government relations professional with longstanding knowledge of patient-centered research. She has more than 25 years of communications, public policy, and health care advocacy experience. Most recently, Hildebrandt was Assistant Director for Government Relations at the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

At the AAFP, Hildebrandt worked on policy issues including comparative effectiveness research, health care reform, delivery system reform, research, and health information technology. She also oversaw the AAFP's grassroots program to engage family physicians on health policy issues. Hildebrandt has also held policy positions at the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and Capitol Hill. She earned her bachelor's degree with distinction in Political Science and German from the University of Michigan and master's degree at the University of Pennsylvania.



**Flory Nkoy, MD, MS, MPH**

**Primary Investigator, University of Utah, School of Medicine**

Flory Nkoy is an Associate Research Professor at the University of Utah, Department of Pediatrics, and an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Biomedical Informatics. He also serves as the Research Director for the Division of Pediatric Inpatient Medicine. In addition to clinical medicine, Dr. Nkoy's background

includes training in public health, medical informatics and quality improvement with an emphasis on implementation and dissemination research. His work combines these skills to pioneer new approaches to improve long-term asthma care and reduce the risks for recurrent ED and hospital admissions. Dr. Nkoy is the Principal Investigator of two major research grants from the AHRQ, which provided resources to develop, validate and implement the *Asthma Tracker* (both paper and electronic versions), an innovative tool designed to enhance patient's engagement in asthma self-monitoring of chronic asthma symptoms



and respond appropriately to early signs of asthma exacerbations. Dr. Nkoy was recently awarded a grant from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to test the effectiveness of a new ambulatory care model supported by the *electronic-AsthmaTracker* at multiple clinics in Utah and to identify factors critical to sustained parent engagement in asthma self-management that can be applied to other pediatric chronic diseases. Dr. Nkoy is a grant reviewer for numerous study sections, including the NIH/NHLBI (Implementation and Dissemination Study Section), AHRQ (Healthcare Information Technology Research Study Section) and PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Clinical Data Research Network Study Section).



**Andrea Jensen**  
**Patient Partner, Redesigning Ambulatory**  
**Care Delivery to Enhance Asthma**  
**Control in Children**

Andrea Jensen is a nationally-certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) at Utah County Health Department. As an Environmental Health Educator, her areas of

focus are: asthma education, radon awareness, Healthy Home education, and proper medication disposal. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Public and Community Health from Utah Valley University.

Jensen is a trained instructor for American Lung Association's "Open Airways", a Certified Instructor for Stanford University's "Chronic Disease Self-Management Program" (called "Living Well with Chronic Conditions" in Utah), and an Instructor for Steppin' On (a falls reduction workshop). She is also a Child Passenger Safety (CPS) technician. She is the Coordinator for the Utah County Asthma Coalition and is a member of the Utah Asthma Task Force. At the request of the Utah Department of Health's Asthma Program, Jensen authors a blog, "My Life as an Asthma Mom," named one of "10 Best Asthma Blogs" by Healthline in 2012 and 2013.

Jensen also developed a packet entitled, "Understanding Asthma: New Asthma Diagnosis Educational Materials." This packet is now being used statewide at other county health departments, Timpanogos Regional Medical Center, Utah School Nursing Association, and doctors' offices.

Jensen and all three of her children suffer from allergies and asthma. Asthma has become her passion, and now helping others is her career.



**Vallabh "Raj" Shah, PhD**  
**Primary Investigator, University of New Mexico,**  
**Health Sciences Center**

Vallabh "Raj" Shah is a Professor and Senior Fellow at the New Mexico Center for the Advancement of Research, Engagement, & Science on Health Disparities (NM CARES HD). Dr. Shah has been involved in community-based participatory research at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences

Center (UNM HSC) for more than 20 years. As a molecular epidemiologist, Dr. Shah works with New Mexican populations who experience disparity in dealing with chronic conditions including diabetes and kidney disease. Dr. Shah is also involved as a member of UNM-HSC Clinical and Translational Science Center's Community Engagement Core. He recently received PCORI funding to study the innovative approach of home-based health care for chronic kidney disease among Zuni Indians.



**Arlen P. Quetawki, Sr.**

**Governor, Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Indian Reservation, Community Partner, Reducing Health Disparity in Chronic Kidney Disease in Zuni Indians**

Arlen P. Quetawki is a graduate of Zuni High School. He successfully completed law enforcement training with the New Mexico

State Law Enforcement Academy in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the BIA Law Enforcement Academy in Artesia, New Mexico. He has worked as a police officer, Tribal Ranger, and Tribal Prosecutor/Legal Advocate for domestic violence with the Pueblo of Zuni. He served as a Tribal Councilman from 1994 to 1998. He was elected to serve a four-year term as Governor for the Pueblo of Zuni from 2003 to 2006. During his first term as Governor, he served on the National Homeland Security Taskforce, and on the National Taskforce on Research for Native American Women involved in domestic violence. He is currently serving another four year term as Governor for the Pueblo of Zuni, having been reelected in December 2010.



**PCORI Engagement Team Staff**

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