



NIHCM
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Maternal Mortality and New Risks to Women's Reproductive Health

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

(In order of appearance on the program)

Moderator:

Sheree Crute, MA, Director of Communications. Sheree Crute joined NIHCM in 2020 to develop and lead the organization's communications strategy. Previously, Ms. Crute was director of communications and marketing for the Dornsife School of Public Health at Drexel University, a research and policy communications specialist for the New York Academy of Medicine, and a strategic communications consultant for Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, focusing on research and policy.

In addition, Ms. Crute is a veteran journalist with decades of experience writing about public health, health inequity and disparities, medicine, and consumer health. She has written for *Washington Monthly*, *The Root.com*, *Health magazine*, *Consumer Reports on Health*, and is co-founder of *FierceforBlackWomen.com*, a website focusing on black women's health. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Council on Black Health.

Sheree has a BA in Journalism, an MA in International Affairs from New York University and a certificate in public health practice from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She was also a 2011 University of Southern California/Annenberg School of Communications National Reporting Fellow.

Speakers:

Ndidiamaka N. Amutah-Onukagha, PhD, MPH, is the inaugural Julia A. Okoro Professor of Black Maternal Health at Tufts University School of Medicine and the Principal Investigator of an NIMHD R01 (1R01MD016026-01) study entitled "Reducing Racial Disparities in SMM Post COVID19: Assessing the integration of maternal safety bundles and community-based doulas to improve outcomes for Black women."

For the past 15 years, she has worked successfully in communities of color on issues including advancing the understanding, prevention, and reduction of maternal mortality or morbidity among racial and ethnic minority women and socioeconomically disadvantaged women. She has spent substantial time building community-researcher relationships in urban communities, providing technical assistance, and serving as a member of various community-based organizations. Previously, as a recipient of an NIMH training grant, she served as the PI of a pilot study that focused on mother-daughter communication in HIV+ African American women. Dr. Amutah-Onukagha is also the Director and Founder of the (Maternal Outcomes for Translational Health Equity Research) MOTHER lab, which hosts 33 future clinicians and public health professionals with a keen interest in eliminating maternal health disparities.

Since 2018, Dr. Amutah-Onukagha has planned and led a national conference on Black Maternal Health Inequities. The conference and related community focused activities ensure that voices of women of color are centered and amplified to address the urgent crisis of maternal mortality and morbidity in the Boston area and around the country.

Ndidiamaka N. Amutah-Onukagha received her PhD in Public Health with a focus on Maternal and Child Health at the University of Maryland, College Park School of Public Health in 2010. She received her Master's in Public Health from The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services in Maternal and Child Health in 2005. Dr. Amutah-Onukagha also received a BS in Public Health and BA in Africana Studies from Rutgers, The State University of NJ.

She is a member of the American Public Health Association and is currently the co-chair of the Perinatal and Women's Health committee in the Maternal and Child Health section. Additionally, Dr. Amutah-Onukagha completed the Kellogg Health Scholars Program (KHSP) Postdoctoral fellowship in Baltimore, MD. During her time postdoctoral fellowship her research focused on family planning and reproductive health in women receiving home visitation services.

Sindhu K. Srinivas, MD, MSCE, is a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Director of Obstetrical Services at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Vice-chair for Quality and Safety, and Physician Lead for the Women's Health Service Line for Penn Medicine. She has developed a successful research program in Maternal Fetal Medicine. Dr. Srinivas's research includes both clinical/epidemiologic and health services. Specifically, her current areas of research include: 1) evaluating innovative health care delivery strategies to improve maternal outcomes and reduce disparities; 2) studying and developing obstetric quality measures as well as understanding the impact of practice changes (individual level and system level) on maternal and neonatal outcomes; and 3) understanding the etiology of racial/ethnic disparities in maternal and neonatal outcomes. Her clinical interests are in the areas of hypertensive disorders of

pregnancy, cardiovascular disease in pregnancy, and pregnancy care and counseling at the threshold of viability.

As a national leader in obstetrics & gynecologist and maternal fetal medicine, Dr. Srinivas's experience this past year has only strengthened her deep commitment to improving the health outcomes of women and children.

An Obstetrician Gynecologist and Maternal Fetal Medicine specialist, Dr. Srinivas is deeply committed to improving health outcomes of women and children through her leadership, research, advocacy, and clinical work. She is an active member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) and of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, and is currently Chair of the SMFM Health Policy and Advocacy committee and is on the SMFM Board.

Dr Srinivas received her MD from UMDNJ-NJ Medical School and her BS in biology from Trenton State University.

Adam Myers, MD, is senior vice president and chief clinical transformation officer (CCTO) for the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association (BCBSA), a national federation of 34 independent, community-based and locally operated Blue Cross and Blue Shield

As BCBSA's CCTO, Myers drives clinical transformation across the BCBS System through national networks, health analytics, quality initiatives, and policy and advocacy positions. In his role, he collaborates with the chief medical officers across the 34 BCBS companies and leads the Office of Clinical Affairs (OCA) and the BCBS Institute. Additionally, Myers serves as chief medical officer of the Blues' Federal Employee Program (FEP), which covers more than 5.4 million members across all 50 states and abroad. A longtime advocate for community health and health equity, Myers helps set the vision for the Blues' efforts to create a more equitable healthcare system.

Prior to joining the Association in September 2021, Myers served as the Cleveland Clinic's chief of population health and director of the Cleveland Clinic Community Care program, where he provided leadership to a wide variety of clinical and residency programs, as well as the center for value-based research. In addition, he led the clinic's care model redesign strategy, the community and public health strategy, and the Diversity Inclusion and Racial Equity Council. Previously, he served in senior clinical and operational leadership roles at several large health systems, including Texas Health Resources, Southwestern Health Resources and Methodist Health System.

A New York City native, Myers is board-certified in family medicine and was in private practice in Oklahoma for more than 10 years. He served on the faculty of the University of Oklahoma obstetrics and gynecology department teaching obstetrics and has earned the status of Fellow with the American College of Healthcare Executives, The American Institute of Healthcare Quality and the American Association of Family Physicians. He

holds additional board certification in healthcare quality management and patient safety and is a certified professional in healthcare risk management. He is past chair of the American Hospital Association board-level Committee for Clinical Leadership and has held board positions with both the Health Care Transformation Task Force and The Joint Commission.

Myers received his undergraduate degree from Centenary College of Louisiana in Shreveport, where he graduated from Louisiana State University Medical Center. He completed his residency with In His Image Family Practice Residency at Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa, Okla., and has completed fellowship work at the University of Oklahoma obstetrics and gynecology department. He also completed a master's in healthcare management from Harvard University.