Webinar 3: LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND: CULTURE AND CONTEXT COUNT IN TAILORING HEPATITIS INTERVENTIONS

Thursday, June 16th

Program and Speaker Bios
Leaving no one behind: Culture and context count in tailoring hepatitis interventions

Program

Welcome | John Ward, Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination
Rina Das, NIMHD, NIH

Opening remarks from Dr. Eliseo Perez-Stable, Director, NIMHD, NIH

Dr. Ponni Perumalswami, University of Michigan | Community-Based Interventions to Address Health Disparities and Advance Hepatitis Elimination

Dr. Janice Y. Tsoh, University of California San Francisco | Health Within Reach - An Interactive Video Patient Education Intervention to Increase Hepatitis B & C Screening Among Asian Americans in Primary Care

Dr. Barbara J. Turner, University of Southern California | Implementation of a Complex Primary Care Intervention to Diagnose and Treat HCV in Low Income Latinx Patients

Panel Discussion

• Dr. Seun Falade-Nwulia, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Introduction

Dr. Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable
Director, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, NIH

Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D. is Director of the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), which seeks to advance the science of minority health and health disparities research through research, training, research capacity development, public education, and information dissemination. Dr. Pérez-Stable practiced general internal medicine for 37 years at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) before moving to NIH in September 2015. He was professor of medicine at UCSF and chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine for 17 years. His research interests include improving the health of racial and ethnic minorities and underserved populations, advancing patient-centered care, improving cross-cultural communication skills among clinicians, and promoting diversity in the biomedical research workforce. For more than 30 years, Dr. Pérez-Stable led research on Latino smoking cessation and tobacco control policy in the United States and Latin America, addressing clinical and prevention issues in cancer screening, and mentoring over 70 minority investigators. He has published over 300 peer-reviewed articles and was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2001.
Dr. Ponni Perumalswami
Associate Professor of Gastroenterology and Hepatology,
University of Michigan

Dr. Ponni Perumalswami is an associate professor of medicine at University of Michigan and the Ann Arbor VA Healthcare System and health services researcher focused on improving access to care for patients with liver disease. Her research focuses on the development of clinical and behavioral health care models to identify and address system-level barriers to viral hepatitis care within underserved and vulnerable communities. In 2020, Perumalswami joined the steering committee of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services’ Hepatitis C Virus Elimination Plan, which informs policy and practice to mitigate the spread of viral hepatitis. She also works with the Michigan Opioid Collaborative on outreach and training initiatives aimed at increasing hepatitis C screening and treatment by primary care providers in rural areas of the state.
Dr. Janice Y. Tsoh
Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences,
UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences,
University of California San Francisco

Dr. Janice Tsoh is a clinical psychologist and Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of California San Francisco School of Medicine. She is Co-Director of the Asian American Research Center on Health (AsianARCH.org). Dr. Tsoh has over 130 peer-reviewed publications and her research program focuses on reducing cancer health disparities through educational and behavioral interventions to promote cancer screening, smoking cessation, physical activity and healthy eating targeting vulnerable and under-resourced populations including Asian American immigrants and cancer patients in community and health care settings. Leveraging community engagement and rigorous methods, Dr. Tsoh’s research aims to promote health equity by developing accessible intervention resources that can empower individuals and families to make informed health decisions and to take an active role in staying healthy.
Dr. Barbara Turner  
**Professor of Clinical Medicine,**  
**Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California**

Barbara J Turner MD, MSEd is a practicing general internist who focuses on health disparities research and community-partnered research. Since 2018, she has been Professor of Clinical Medicine at Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California. In 2010, she established the Center for Research to Advance Community Health (ReACH) as a partnership between the University of Texas (UT) Health San Antonio and the UT School of Public Health. ReACH now has 29 Scholars from multiple disciplines and institutions sharing the mission of improving health outcomes through community-oriented research especially focusing on the low-income Latinx residents of South Texas. Her hepatitis C virus (HCV) research program addressed implementation and dissemination of hepatitis C virus screening and treatment for primarily uninsured residents of Texas in collaboration with 6 health care systems with 21 diverse primary care practices. Through three federal- and two state-funded projects, her team developed and tested implementation of a complex intervention called STOP HCV-HCV that featured: bilingual mobile app patient education about HCV; educational programs for the primary-care team about HCV and treatment to cure; culturally-appropriate web-based educational resource for community and providers; patient care navigation; information technology support; brief “lunchtime” specialist remote consultation; and free medication through pharmaceutical assistance programs. This work has produced 16 publications and 7 news articles as well as collaboration with policymakers at the state and federal levels. This research program received an award from the U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services as a model of community-partnered projects to promote diagnosis and cure of chronic HCV infection.
Panelists

Dr. Seun Falade-Nwulia
Associate Professor, John Hopkins School of Medicine

Dr. Falade-Nwulia is an Associate Professor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, MD and director of the Johns Hopkins Bayview Center for substance use and infectious disease care integration. She completed her residency in internal medicine at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical center of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, her combined fellowship in Infectious Diseases/Critical care Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health. She previously served as Medical Director of the Baltimore City Health Department Ryan White funded HIV Early Intervention Initiative program, designed and led the implementation of the BCHD hepatitis C programs. She served on the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD)/ Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) HCV Guidance Expert Panel from 2015 to 2020. Her research has focused on understanding the distribution and impact of treatments for hepatitis and HIV infections on clinical outcomes for people who use drugs and use of implementation science approaches to improve access to HCV/HIV and drug use treatment for people who use drugs. Her work has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Centers for Disease Control Foundation and has included integration of HCV treatment into varying settings including public health clinics, opioid treatment and syringe service programs and integration of substance use disorder treatment into HIV care settings.
**Moderators**

**Dr. Rina Das**  
*Program Director, Division of Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), NIH*

Dr. Rina Das is a Scientific Program Director at NIMHD in the Division of Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences. She focuses on promoting research to understand and address the various factors that play a role in health disparities in different underserved populations. She lends her expertise to a wide array of NIMHD programs that seek to improve minority health and health disparities, including translational sciences, cancer health disparities, research on the intersection of biological and social sciences, social epigenomics, sleep health disparities, community-based interventions and immigrant health. At NIMHD she initiated the program to improve our understanding of the risk factors for liver disease and cancer disparities among US populations that experience health disparities. Prior to joining NIMHD, Dr. Das served as a Program Director at the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities at the National Cancer Institute. She managed programs on cancer health disparities research that focused on community-based interventions among various racial/ethnic minority populations, and the role of biological factors in cancer disparities. Dr. Das also served as a Scientific Review Officer (SRO) at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.
Dr. John W. Ward
Director, Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination, Task Force for Global Health

Dr. John W. Ward created and directs the Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination of the Task Force for Global Health. Modelled after other Task Force programs to eliminate disease, the Coalition is a community of practice strengthening the capacity of national and sub-national hepatitis elimination programs through funding, advocacy, technical assistance, operational research and monitoring progress toward hepatitis elimination in >190 countries. Globally, Dr. Ward is an advisor to African Union Hepatitis Technical Working Group, and WHO including the PAHO technical advisory committee on disease elimination and the WPRO Hepatitis B Expert Resource Panel. Dr. Ward chairs the AASLD Task Force for Hepatitis Elimination. Over a 13-year tenure, Dr. Ward directed the US CDC Division of Viral Hepatitis with responsibilities for viral hepatitis surveillance, prevention, and research. At the national level, Dr. Ward developed recommendations for hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccination, hepatitis B and hepatitis C screening, authored the first action plan for viral hepatitis prevention. Dr. Ward initiated the US Academies of Sciences recommendations for viral hepatitis elimination and guided the launch of pioneer HCV elimination programs. Earlier Dr. Ward was Editor of the CDC MMWR and assisted in the CDC response to large outbreaks including SARS and the anthrax attacks after 9/11. As a medical epidemiologist in the CDC HIV/AIDS program, Dr. Ward identified new routes of HIV transmission, evaluated the first HIV tests to protect the nation’s blood supply and led national HIV/AIDS surveillance. Dr. Ward has authored over 150 publications of scientific work in viral hepatitis and HIV and edited Silent Victories, a history of public health in the 20th Century published by Oxford University Press. Dr. Ward received his medical training at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and University of Washington, Seattle. Dr. Ward is a Professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta.