

Presenter Biographies (In order of appearance)



Gloria M. Petersen, Ph.D.

Co-Director, Office of Health Disparities Research

Professor of Epidemiology

Dr. Gloria Petersen directs the Mayo Clinic Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) in Pancreatic Cancer, as well as one of the largest and most comprehensive patient registry and biobank resources for the study of pancreatic cancer. As a result of her research reputation, she is on the leadership teams of the National Cancer Institute-based PanScan studies and the Pancreatic Cancer Case-Control Consortium (PANC4).

Dr. Petersen's institutional leadership roles include membership in the Diversity and Inclusion Oversight Committee, membership in the Named Professorship Committee, membership in the Research Advisory Council to the Executive Dean for Research, and Co-Director of the Office of Health Disparities Research.

Gloria M. Petersen, Ph.D., holds appointments in the departments of Health Sciences Research, Gastroenterology, and Medical Genetics. She is a professor of epidemiology in the College of Medicine, Mayo Clinic, and holds the Purvis and Roberta Tabor Professorship. Dr. Petersen is certified as a Ph.D. Medical Geneticist by the American Board of Medical Genetics and is a founding member of the American College of Medical Genetics.

Dr. Petersen's research interests and expertise are in the application of genetic epidemiology to cancer etiology, including genetic linkage analysis of cancer families for gene discovery and genetic association studies for characterizing gene-environment interactions. Her disease research focus is pancreatic and other gastrointestinal cancers.

Dr. Petersen's funded research programs include two R01 grants. One project is the Pancreatic Cancer Genetic Epidemiology (PACGENE) Consortium, a seven-center consortium that is prospectively recruiting high-risk familial pancreatic cancer kindreds and genotyping them to localize the chromosomal regions that harbor susceptibility loci and identify the gene(s) themselves. She and her colleagues have developed a resource of more than 2,700 families for study. Her second project explores the bioethical issues involved in informing members of pancreatic cancer families of incidental genetic research findings.



David O. Warner, M.D.

Co-Director, Office of Health Disparities Research

Professor of Anesthesiology

David O. Warner, M.D., is Professor of Anesthesiology in the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science in Rochester, MN. He received his medical degree at The Ohio State University and completed anesthesia residency and fellowship training at Mayo Clinic in 1987. He has served in a

variety of institutional administrative roles, and currently serves as Co-Director of the Office for Health Disparities Research, the Co-PI and Director of Educational programs for the Mayo Clinic Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences (CTSA), and the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs for the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine. He also serves as a Director for the American Board of Anesthesiology. He has given over 60 invited presentations to national and international meetings. Research interests include outcomes after anesthesia and tobacco control in surgical patients. He has mentored over 35 research fellows, published over 250 peer-reviewed manuscripts, and authored 18 chapters. Clinically he practices pediatric anesthesiology. He married his high-school sweetheart and has three grown-up kids who have produced four cute grandkids (so far).



Chyke A. Doubeni M.D., M.P.H.

**Director of the Mayo Clinic Center for Health Equity and
Community Engagement Research**

Chyke Doubeni , MD, MPH is a family physician and the inaugural director of the Mayo Clinic Center for Health Equity and Community Engagement Research, which addresses health disparities throughout the life course and advances the ideal of health equity locally and globally through research and community engagement. He is certified by the American Board of Family Medicine. Dr. Doubeni has expertise in clinical and public health interventions, as well as

primary care transformation to improve access to care and eliminate disparities in the burden of chronic disease in communities. He conducts research to foster novel population health and community-driven strategies to promote health.

Dr. Doubeni previously served as Interim Associate Vice Provost for Diversity at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Dr. Doubeni has many years of experience in undergraduate and graduate medical education and mentoring. He directed the transdisciplinary National Center for Integrated Behavioral Health in Primary Care, funded by the Health Resources Services Administration to advance innovative models of improving access to care for mental health conditions and substance use disorders. He has also directed a cancer clinical epidemiology training program funded by the National Cancer Institute and codirected a Stimulating Access to Research in Residency program.

Dr. Doubeni has conducted extensive research in delivery systems and communities to improve the process, quality, and effectiveness of cancer prevention and screening and inform national efforts to increase the uptake of cancer screening, with a focus on racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities. He has authored

many peer-reviewed publications, including articles in the New England Journal of Medicine, Journal of the American Medical Association, Annals of Internal Medicine, Annals of Family Medicine, Pediatrics, American Journal of Public Health, American Journal of Preventive Medicine, Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Gut, and Cancer. Dr. Doubeni authors topics on colorectal cancer screening for UpToDate, an online point-of-care, evidence-based clinical information resource. He is the principal investigator on a colorectal cancer screening comparative effectiveness study funded by the National Cancer Institute. His work also has been funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Substance Abuse Policy Research Program.

Dr. Doubeni received the 2010 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, which is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their career for accomplishments in research, mentoring, and community service. He also received the Sadie Gerson Distinguished Scholar Award from the University of Pittsburgh. He has served as chair of grant review panels for the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Doubeni earned his medical degree from the University of Lagos, and he has a diverse clinical background with experiences in three continents. He received a fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and completed a family medicine residency at Duke University and a preventive medicine/public health residency at the University of Massachusetts, where he also obtained a master's in public health degree.



Farhia Omar MPH

Farhia is the Program Manager for the Center for Health Equity and Community Engagement Research at Mayo Clinic Arizona. She has a rich history in health disparities, public health education and outreach to diverse populations. She has over 16 years of research experience as well as working in health disparities. Farhia oversees the Arizona functioning of the Center by providing leadership, management and direction in collaboration with Scientific and Administrative leadership in

development of strategic plans, budgets and process improvements. Farhia received her undergraduate degree from Portland State University and her Master's degree in Public Health from Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Farhia facilitates the implementation of research projects by working with multiple Principal Investigators to attain their research goals. Her interest areas are in public health, reducing health disparities, community-based participatory research, and global health. Farhia enjoys working to help underserved and underrepresented communities, promoting health equity and reducing health disparities. She serves on the African Descendants MERG and is a co-founder of the newly formed Global MERG in Arizona with the goal of creating a support network of people who are actively involved in or voicing interest in global health initiatives at Mayo Clinic; specifically through networking, mentoring, and educational opportunities around current Mayo Clinic efforts abroad as well as within the state of Arizona. Ms. Omar is fluent in Somali and Swahili



Monica Albertie MHA

Monica Albertie is the Operations Manager in the Center for Health Equity and Community Engagement Research at Mayo Clinic. She provides management of health equity and community engagement research for Mayo Clinic. She also serves as an investigator on several studies focusing on community based interventions to improve the health of underserved populations. Monica received her undergraduate degree in Health Care Management from Florida A& M University. She attended graduate school at the University of Florida where she obtained her Master's in Health Administration. She has an extensive background and experience in community engagement, research operations, and qualitative research methodology



Sumedha Penheiter, PhD

Sumedha Penheiter is a Program Manager for the Mayo Clinic Office of Health Disparities Research. Her efforts are geared towards coordinating health disparities research and related programmatic activities. She also serves as the Assistant Secretary for the Mayo Clinic Diversity and Inclusion Committee in Rochester and is a member of several Mayo Employees' Resource Groups (MERG) including Somos Latinos, India MERG, India MERG, Greater Leadership Opportunities for Women

MERG, and Celebrate Dakota! MERG.

Outside of Mayo Clinic, Dr. Penheiter is an appointed member of the Policy and Steering Committees for the Minnesota Cancer Alliance, a coalition of over 100 organizations from diverse backgrounds dedicated to reducing the burden of cancer. She contributed to the development of 'Cancer Plan 2025', the cancer plan to be implemented by the state of MN for the next decade. Additionally, she is on the panel for the Minnesota Cancer Health Equity Network sponsored by Minnesota Department of Health. She has also served on the advisory board for Early Childhood and Family Education, MN, been a representative for the United Way and is part of the Rochester Public School, 'Volunteers in Education'. She received a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Genetics from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln in collaboration with the National Human Genome Research Institute, NIH at Bethesda, MD. She conducted bench-research at Mayo Clinic for fifteen years in the fields of Cancer Biology and Gene-Editing where she gained extensive experience in publishing manuscripts and submitting grant applications



Sean Phelan, PhD

The research program of Sean Phelan, Ph.D., is focused on understanding the implications of stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination in regard to health and

medical care for members of stigmatized, marginalized and minority groups. He is especially interested in unconscious cognitive processes and how they may influence the behavior of health care providers, including communication with patients and clinical decision-making.

The goal of Dr. Phelan's research is to develop interventions to help health care providers reduce the impact of unconscious bias and provide patient-centered, compassionate care. He is also investigating ways to provide patients with strategies for attaining high-quality care and reducing the impact of discrimination on health.



Kenneth Poole, MD

Dr. Kenneth Poole, Jr. was born and raised in St. Louis, MO. He earned his bachelor's degree from Tennessee State University, his M.D. from Northwestern University, and his MBA from Washington University in St. Louis. Dr. Poole completed his residency training in internal medicine at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis and went into solo medical practice thereafter.

In 2014 Dr. Poole joined the staff at Mayo Clinic Arizona, where he is Medical Director of Patient Experience, an Assistant Professor of Medicine in Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, and chair of the Mayo Clinic Enterprise Health Information Coordinating Subcommittee, which oversees informatics policy. His academic interests include health economics and policy, innovation in health care delivery, and clinical informatics, and he sits on the Admissions Committee for the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine. Dr. Poole is a member of the Mayo Clinic Arizona Clinical Practice Committee and several practice-based subcommittees charged with improving care and quality throughout Mayo Clinic. He has spent time on the Mayo Clinic Arizona Space and Capital Committee and has previously chaired diversity efforts across all Mayo Clinic School of Medicine sites nationally. Dr. Poole also consults for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona's Medicare Advantage plan in a medical director capacity.

Dr. Poole is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and is a Certified Physician Executive through the American Association of Physician Leadership. He sits on the board of directors for the Maricopa County Medical Society and is president of the Arizona Society of Black Physicians. He is also a member of the National Medical Association; the Arizona Medical Association; Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; and Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Gamma Mu Boule.

--Dr. Kenneth Poole, Jr. is the Medical Director of Patient Experience for Mayo Clinic Arizona. He also chairs the Mayo Clinic Enterprise Health Information Coordinating Subcommittee, which oversees informatics policy; sits on the Mayo Clinic Arizona Clinical Practice Committee; and is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science. His academic interests include health economics and policy, innovation in health care delivery, and clinical informatics, and he sits on the Admissions Committee for the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine.



Gerardo Colon-Otero, MD

The research of Gerardo Colon-Otero, M.D., is focused on the treatment of breast cancer and gynecologic malignancies (ovarian cancer, uterine cancer and cervical cancer) and on efforts to eliminate cancer care outcome disparities.

Dr. Colon-Otero collaborates with other scientists at Mayo Clinic to identify new treatments for gynecologic cancer and breast cancer aimed at overcoming the problem of tumor resistance. His research aims at identifying some of the genetic differences that may contribute to worse outcomes in different segments of the population.

In collaboration with community entities, his team develops community-based interventions aimed at ensuring underserved populations have adequate access to cancer screening and cancer research programs. Dr. Colon-Otero is also actively involved in the training of medical students, residents and fellows.



Celine M. Vachon, PhD

The research of Celine M. Vachon, Ph.D., focuses on two main areas. Dr. Vachon works toward a better understanding of the genetics and epidemiology of mammographic density and their utility as risk factors for and surrogate markers of breast cancer risk and recurrence.

Additionally, she studies the genetic epidemiology of multiple myeloma, its precursor — monoclonal gammopathies of underdetermined significance (MGUS) — and other hematologic malignancies.



Valerie DeCora Guimaraes

Valerie DeCora Guimaraes is currently a patient relations specialist for NA patients at Mayo Clinic. She is an enrolled member of the Ho-Chunk Nation and also has Dakota heritage.

Valerie has over 20 years of nursing experience. She has worked in med surg, rehab,

neuro, extended care, outpatient mental health, and public health.

Valerie earned her nursing degree from Winona State University. A bachelor's degree in physiology from UM – Duluth, where she was a MARC scholar. Valerie earned her Master's degree from Lesley University, where Dr. Jan Vasina was her mentor.

Valerie has served on the Bemidji Area Race Relations Council as a board member and chair. Similarly for the Winona Human Rights Commission.

Valerie has served on the Heritage Preservation Commission here in Rochester, and currently serves on the Board of the Rochester International Association. She has founded Indian Education Programming in Rochester and serves on the Native American Parent Education Committee. Valerie is involved in NA human rights issues and humanitarian issues, such that she founded the Greater Rochester Area Dakota Supporters or GRADS, a 501 © 3. organization to better serve her people, particularly those on exile reservations. Her professional memberships include the Minnesota Indigenous Women's Network, the American Indian Nurses Association, and the Multicultural Nurses MERG. Valerie has lived in Rochester for over 15 years, married to Dr. Paulo Guimaraes, a member of the White Earth Nation, and has 4 feisty children.



Mark L. Wieland, MD

The research of Mark L. Wieland, M.D., focuses on community-based participatory research (CBPR) to address issues relevant to immigrant and refugee health.

CBPR is an approach to research in which the target population is involved in every stage of the research process.



Ahmed (Shafii) A. Mohamed, MD

As an internal medicine physician, I have special interest in the reduction of health disparities and health care for immigrant and refugee populations. I have been involved in multiple studies addressing health disparities through a community-based participatory research partnership in Rochester, MN called Rochester Healthy

Community Partnership. I have previously led a qualitative study on physical activity perceptions among Somali men. My focus is currently on intervention development through CBPR to address cancer screening disparities among patients with limited English proficiency.

I am currently a Research Fellow in the Division of Community Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic. I completed my internal medicine residency at Mayo Clinic in June 2019. Prior to that, I attended Michigan State University College of Human Medicine for medical school.



Young J. Juhn, MD

The laboratory (Pediatric Asthma Epidemiology Research Unit) of Young J. Juhn, M.D., researches the impact of asthma, allergic rhinitis and eczema on the risk of emerging or reemerging infectious and/or chronic diseases. As the development and discovery of important findings in this area of research continues, effort is focused on determining that asthma is a systemic disease going beyond a mere airway inflammatory disease. Dr. Juhn's research unit elucidates the mechanistic underpinnings for the influence of asthma or other atopic conditions on infection and other diseases (i.e., systemic effect). At the same time, under the framework of a broader understanding of health in the social context, Dr. Juhn's team examines the role of socioeconomic status upon health. The goal is to understand how biomedical (e.g., immune system) and macro-environmental factors (e.g., socioeconomics) interact in a way that either promotes or compromises health. Dr. Juhn has developed and validated a housing-based socioeconomic measure (HOUSES index) to apply to epidemiologic research concerning health disparities and differences in a variety of health outcomes. This newly developed index has shown to be a useful tool, allowing investigators to work more effectively. It enables researchers to overcome the absence of socioeconomic measures in commonly used data sources (e.g., administrative data), conduct geospatial analysis in health disparities research and apply a life course approach.



Megan A. Allyse, PhD

Megan A. Allyse, Ph.D., is broadly focused on the translation of emerging medical technologies from research endeavors into clinical practice. In particular, she is

interested in issues around reproductive ethics and women's health and health disparities in access to care.

Dr. Allyse's past research has examined the intersection of assisted reproductive care with embryonic stem cell and human cloning research and the management of oocyte exchanges. More recently, she has developed a comprehensive research portfolio around the clinical translation of noninvasive prenatal genetic screening, including issues around informed consent and patient education, counteracting stigma in the disability community, and understanding the impact of prenatal genomic information on patient care and the experience of pregnancy.

Dr. Allyse is also interested in enhancing the practice of clinical genomics, especially the experiences and attitudes of underserved populations, and in improving mechanisms for returning results and for patient education. The overall goal of her research is to provide appropriate, high-level care to all patients, regardless of socio-economic status.



Aaron L. Leppin, MD

Aaron L. Leppin, M.D., studies work by multiple stakeholders to implement innovations and improvements in health care acommunity settings. His research is mainly focused on improving a community's capacity to partner with health care and to engage in evidence-based health promotion activities that improve population health and support healthy aging.



Christi A. Patten, PhD

The research of Christi A. Patten, Ph.D., focuses on developing novel, theory-based behavioral interventions for tobacco cessation. The findings of Dr. Patten's research can be readily integrated within existing systems of care for patients, such as Alaska Native pregnant women, in order to successfully introduce tobacco cessation interventions and strategies.



Marion Kelly

Marion Kelly serves as Director for the Office of Community Affairs at Mayo Clinic. In this role, Mr. Kelly provides leadership for the organizations' efforts to build solid neighbor, civic and corporate relationships. "Community" in its broadest sense encompasses the entire Southwest region of the United States. In addition to providing leadership in Community Affairs, he is also responsible for institutionalizing "Diversity" as a corporate objective within the strategic plan of Mayo Clinic.

Mr. Kelly's broad experiences are in both the education and political arena. His experiences include teaching elementary education, working in the United States Senate, Indiana University School of Medicine Administration and Assistant Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs at Mayo Medical School. Mr. Kelly was an appointee in the former Bush White House administration as Special Assistant for At Risk Youth Initiatives at the United States Department of Labor, and as the White House Liaison for the Labor Department.



Jean Gunderson, DNP, RN

Jean Gunderson, DNP, RN is the Community Engagement Coordinator and Community Health Worker (CHW) Co-Supervisor within Mayo Clinic Employee and Community Health, Rochester, Minnesota. Doctoral degree emphasis is in advanced practice Transcultural Community Health Nursing. She has spent many years addressing Community Health Worker capacities and serves on the MN CHW Alliance and the MN CHW Supervisory Roundtable. She was also a CHW instructor at Rochester Community and Technical College. Prior to her work at Mayo Clinic, she served as a lead public health nurse for Winona County Community Health Services and as a county social worker for Winona County Human Services. She was a founding mother of the Winona County Interpreter Network, now under the auspices of Project FINE. Transcultural Care Models promoting health equity and holistic health and healing remain at the heart of her practice.



LaPrincess C. Brewer, M.D., M.P.H.

Dr. LaPrincess Brewer is a cardiologist and Assistant Professor of Medicine within the Mayo Clinic Division of Preventive Cardiology, Department of Cardiovascular Medicine in Rochester, MN. She earned her master of public health from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, MD. She completed residency training

in Internal Medicine at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Brewer completed clinical fellowships in Cardiovascular Diseases and Preventive Cardiology within the Mayo Clinic Department of Cardiovascular Medicine. She has clinical expertise in the following areas: cardiovascular disease risk assessment, cardiac rehabilitation, women's health, telecardiology for underserved populations and exercise testing.

She was awarded highly competitive career development awards including the American Heart Association-Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program Award, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) Scholar Award and the NIH KL2 Mentored Career Development Award to expand her work as a clinical investigator. Her primary research focus addresses cardiovascular health disparities through innovative, community-based behavioral interventions for underserved communities and special populations. She also has a special interest in increasing minority participation in cardiovascular clinical trials. She is an active member of the American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology and the Association of Black Cardiologists, Inc. and serves on several executive committees.



Barbara Jordan

Barbara Jordan is currently an Education Administrator at Mayo Clinic where she has worked for over 24 years. She has a dual assignment with leadership responsibility for the Mayo Clinic Quality Academy and the College of Medicine Office for Diversity. Her role in the Office for Diversity is in support of the College of Medicine's mission to advance the Mayo Clinic practice by providing recruitment, retention and advancement activities that target students from backgrounds that are underrepresented in science and medicine. Barbara's years of experience have allowed her to develop outstanding expertise and mentoring skills that she deploys to help prepare prospective premedical and pre-science learners for accessing and navigating the pathways to professional education. In her Quality Academy role, Barbara leads the Academy, a comprehensive educational provider at Mayo that provides quality improvement, patient safety and patient experience training for Mayo Clinic staff across the enterprise. Barbara has a broad and deep portfolio of community activities and advocacy. One of her proudest accomplishments is being part of a small group of community members who put forth the idea and developed the case statement for establishment of what was to become the Boy and Girls Club of Rochester, Minnesota. She currently serves on the BGCR board and leads the Board Development Committee. Barbara has chaired the boards of the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Rochester Diversity Council. She is currently and officer with the board of the Rochester Area Foundation and the Rochester Branch of the NAACP. Barbara holds a BA in English from Southern Methodist University and a Masters in Organizational Management from Concordia University.



Joyce (Joy) Balls-Berry PhD

Joyce (Joy) Balls-Berry, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and Senior Associate Consultant at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science. She completed her formal education at Xavier University of Louisiana with graduate training at Washington University School of Medicine and The University of Toledo. Dr. Balls-Berry completed a post-doctoral research fellowship in health equity, epidemiology, and biostatistics at The University of Florida. Her work as a scientist centers on increasing awareness of the importance of community-patient engagement in research to increase health equity in minority and under-resourced communities. Dr. Balls-Berry is the principal investigator of several health disparities research studies. Recently, she completed a PCORI project to expand the efforts of the Minority Women in Research Network, which she established in 2011. The network's mission is to promote community-patient engagement in research conducted by minority women scientists interested in research collaborations, academic scholarship, innovation, and dissemination. As an educator, Dr. Balls-Berry received the Mayo Clinic Teacher of Year and CCaTS Educator of the Year awards. The faculty and the student body vote on these awards. Recently, she shared her story of living with dyslexia and handling personal challenges as TEDx Talk. Dr. Balls-Berry has served as a mentor and coach to a number of students, academics, and leaders. Her work as a mentor focuses on assisting others in finding their true calling.



Sharonne Hayes, MD

Dr. Sharonne N. Hayes is Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and founded and maintains an active clinical practice in the Women's Heart Clinic at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. She was appointed as Mayo Clinic's first Director of Diversity and Inclusion in 2010. With leadership she sets strategy for D&I activities across Mayo Clinic and develops solutions for equity in patient care and the workforce. Under her leadership, Mayo Clinic has been nationally recognized for its D&I accomplishments. Dr. Hayes has long advocated for the advancement of women's health and sex-based medicine within the field of cardiology and many other areas that affect women's health and well-being. Dr. Hayes previously directed Mayo Clinic's Office of Women's Health, has led efforts to optimize women's health clinical practice and research activities at Mayo Clinic and developed programs to enhance the professional and personal development and mentorship of women and minority physicians in order to promote a more diverse workforce at Mayo and in the field of cardiovascular medicine. In 2017 she was recognized by the AHA with the Women in Cardiology Mentoring Award. She serves as a founder of Time's Up Healthcare and is a tireless advocate for safe, equitable, and dignified healthcare workplaces that promote high-quality patient care and has developed programs to assess and mitigate unconscious bias in healthcare.

Dr. Hayes is a member of a number of national initiatives and groups involved in education, strategic planning, and program development for improvement of health care and reduction of health disparities. She helped develop the NHLBI's Heart Truth ("Red Dress") campaign, is active with AHA's Go Red Campaign and served on the Board of Directors for WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease.

With WomenHeart, Dr. Hayes coordinates the Science and Leadership Symposium for Women with Heart Disease, held annually at Mayo Clinic, aimed at preparing heart disease survivors to be advocates and educators for other women. Her commitment to women's heart health has been recognized by the 2002 Wenger Award, an invitation from First Lady Laura Bush to speak at the White House for the 1st National Wear Red Day in 2004, and a Woman's Day Magazine "Red Dress Award" in 2009. Dr. Hayes research interests include sex and gender-based cardiology, cardiovascular conditions primarily affecting women, spontaneous coronary artery dissection (SCAD), fibromuscular dysplasia, health equity, participation of women and minorities in medical research, healthcare workforce equity, and the utility and optimal role of social media in clinical practice, medical research and health education.

Dr. Hayes is a nationally recognized educator and speaker on diversity, women's health and cardiovascular issues and has developed numerous medical educational programs on women's health and health equity topics for both medical professionals and the public. In 2004, Dr. Hayes co-produced the Emmy-nominated PBS show, "Call to Action: Women and Heart Disease". In 2011 she co-hosted and moderated In the Prime of Her Life — A Mayo Clinic Media Briefing on Women and Heart Disease held in February at the Paley Center for Media in New York City. She has been a guest on the Today Show, Good Morning America, CNN, Talk of the Nation, and the Dr. Oz Show among others, and has also done live medical reporting for a local ABC affiliate. She serves on the advisory board for Woman's Day and Diabetic Living magazines.

Dr. Hayes received her medical degree from Northwestern University in Chicago and pursued fellowships in Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Research, and Cardiovascular Diseases at Mayo Clinic Rochester, joining the Mayo staff in 1990. She is a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association, has served in a number of volunteer leadership roles for AHA at the local, regional and national level and is a member of the Association of Black Cardiologists.



John M. Knudsen, MD

John M. Knudsen, M.D., is a consultant in the Department of Radiology. He currently serves as chair of the Division of Ultrasonography, Department of Radiology and is the Medical Director for the Mayo Clinic Office of Health Equity and Inclusion. Dr. Knudsen holds the academic rank of assistant professor of radiology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. He joined the staff of Mayo Clinic in 1991.

Dr. Knudsen earned his bachelor's degree in finance at the University of Texas and his M.D. degree at the Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine. He completed a residency in diagnostic radiology at Mayo Graduate School of Medicine, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and was a fellow in abdominal imaging at Duke University Medical Center.

Dr. Knudsen's clinical focuses include abdominal imaging utilizing computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging and ultrasonography. He is frequently invited to give presentations on his research both

domestically and internationally and has authored numerous journal articles, abstracts and other written publications.

In recognition of his work, Dr. Knudsen has received numerous awards and honors, including the Alpha Omega Alpha, Texas A&M University College of Medicine; the Carmen Award for Citizenship, conferred by the Department of Radiology, Mayo Clinic; and the Certificate of Merit award, conferred by the Radiological Society of North America Annual Meeting. In addition to his clinical activities, Dr. Knudsen leads efforts across the institution to address health care inequities and health disparities. Through his leadership in the Office of Health Equity and Inclusion, Dr. Knudsen is assisting Mayo Clinic to be a more inclusive health care provider and better meet the health care needs of all patients that Mayo Clinic serves. He has taught courses focused on diversity and inclusion, including caring for LGBTI patients and understanding LGBTI patient health disparities and equity. He has participated in national conferences and workshops including the Institute of Medicine to help develop standards for the routine collection of sexual orientation and gender identity in the health care setting. Dr. Knudsen is also active in teaching and mentoring. He has taught numerous radiology courses, including internal radiology, abdominal imaging and ultrasound techniques. He has also taught and mentored numerous medical students and radiology residents.

Dr. Knudsen holds memberships with numerous professional organizations, including the American Medical Association, Radiological Society of North America, American Roentgen Ray Society, American College of Radiology, and Minnesota Medical Association.



Jennifer Westendorf, PhD

Jennifer Westendorf studies the molecular and epigenetic basis for skeletal formation, the regeneration of bone and cartilage, and the growth of primary and metastatic bone tumors. Visit Dr. Westendorf's Skeletal Development and Regeneration Research Laboratory to learn more about her research.

Dr. Westendorf has numerous leadership roles within and outside of Mayo Clinic. She is the vice chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and a member of several Mayo Clinic research subcommittees. She has served as chairperson of several National Institutes of Health review panels and just completed a term on the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) Council. She is currently a member of the board of directors for the Orthopaedic Research Society and serves on the editorial boards of several journals. Dr. Westendorf is proud of the talented young investigators and students that work in the laboratory and make exciting discoveries. Her team's research accomplishments have been recognized with several national awards, including the Fuller Albright Award, two John Haddad Awards and the Harold M. Frost Award, all from the ASBMR.