



**AMCP Foundation’s Research Symposium
Access, Affordability and Adherence: Addressing Disparities in Medication Use**

*The AMCP Foundation recognizes the generous partnership and support of this symposium
by Genentech, Johnson & Johnson, Lilly and Moderna*



December 3, 2024

12:00 PM Networking & Box Lunch

12:30 PM Welcome & Introductions

Susan Cantrell, CEO, AMCP
Mitzi Wasik, Executive Director, AMCP Foundation

12:45 PM Overview of symposium goals, objectives and deliverables
Jasmine Gonzalvo, PharmD, CDCES, FADCES, Program Moderator
*Director, The Chris and Theresa Dimos Director of the Center for
Health Excellence, Quality, and Innovation at Purdue University*

12:50 PM – 1:30 PM **A Fireside Chat: Promising Innovations, Continued Pain Points,
and Needed Research to Measure Impact on Addressing
Disparities in Medication Use**

Moderator: **Jasmine Gonzalvo, PharmD**

Panelists: **Rebekah Angove, PhD, Executive Vice President of Research and
Evaluation, The Patient Advocate Foundation**
**Helen Kourlas, PharmD, BCPS, Assistant Vice President, Pharmacy,
Healthfirst**
**Tripp Logan, PharmD, Vice President, SEMO Rx Pharmacies & Care
Coordination**
Michael Manolakis, PharmD, PhD, Senior Vice President, Aon

Objectives:

- *To share innovations in identifying and addressing disparities in medication use and focus on the barriers to scale these innovations and how they can be overcome;*
- *To discuss new and evolving roles for healthcare professionals, community health workers and health services researchers to collaborate with the payor community to demonstrate ROI for the roles they are taking to identify and mitigate social determinants of health and address disparities in access to needed therapies;*
- *To share the challenges of access and affordability through the lens of a payor, patient and employer benefits perspective and how they are addressing them in the short and medium term; and*
- *To discuss and share insights and potential solutions that significantly broaden access and improve affordability for high-cost therapies and drugs.*

1:40 PM to 1:50 PM

Guidance for Building out the Roadmap to Address Disparities in Medication Use

Jasmine Gonzalvo

1:50 PM to 2:35 PM

Breakout Session #1: Focusing on Scaling Practices and Measuring Impact on Outcomes

2:35 PM to 3:00 PM

NETWORKING BREAK

3:00 PM to 3:40 PM

Addressing Access & Affordability Challenges to Cell & Gene Therapies

Presenter/Moderator:

Margaret Scott, MS, MPH, Principal, Avalere

Panelists:

Terry Cothran, DPh, Senior Pharmacy Director, Oklahoma Health Care Authority

Kimberly Lenz, PharmD, MBA, FAMCP, Chief Pharmacy Officer, MassHealth

Mark Trusheim, MSc, Strategic Director, Center for Biomedical System Design, NEW DIGS

Ashley Valentine, MSN, RN, Clinical Advisor, Sick Cells (invited)

Objectives:

- *To discuss the impact on access and affordability with the varied approaches being used for cell and gene therapy coverage including value-based pricing, value-based outcomes contracts, warranties, subscription insurance models, installment payment arrangements, and a federal carve-out benefit program.*

- To discuss the CMMI Cell and Gene Therapy model, and the impact that its roll-out might have on existing state Medicaid programs.
- To delineate new approaches to coverage of these therapies, including the development of shared risk pools.

3:40 PM to 4:20 PM

Keynote Session: Addressing Vaccine Hesitancy and Access in a Post-COVID Era

Presenter:

Dr. Reed Tuckson, M.D., FACP, Managing Director of Tuckson Health Connections (invited)

Background:

Vaccination is a cornerstone of public health, but vaccine hesitancy poses significant challenges as highlighted during and following the COVID-19 pandemic. How we impact this hesitancy is a matter of fostering trust, promoting evidence-based vaccine recommendations, deploying community engagement initiatives and tapping into multiple levers including policy interventions, research, innovation, and technology to enhance vaccine uptake and ensure equitable access.

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Networking Reception

December 4, 2024

7:30 AM to 8:30 AM

Networking Breakfast

8:30 AM to 8:50 AM

Setting the Stage for Day 2 of the Research Symposium

Moderator: Jasmine Gonzalvo

Highlights from Day 1, Outlook & Goals for Day 2:
Next steps in preparing a roadmap for critical next steps and stakeholder actions needed.

8:50 AM to 9:20 AM

Addressing Disparities in the Evidence-Based Use of Biomarker-Driven Precision Oncology

Background:

Comprehensive tumor biomarker testing is a fundamental step in the selection of highly-effective molecularly driven therapies for a variety of solid tumors. While multiple factors are known to impact health care disparities, access to and receipt of appropriate biomarker testing must be an attainable goal in order to ensure equal access to quality care.

Co-presenters: *Ira Klein, MD, MBA, FACP, Vice President, Medical Affairs, Payer Relations, Tempus*

Lalan Wilfong, MD, Senior Vice President, Value Based Care, Thyme Care

9:20 AM to 9:35 AM Q&A moderated by Cate Lockhart, Chief Science Officer at AMCP Research Institute

9:35 AM to 10:15 AM **The Impact of Pharmacy Closures on Access to Medicines: A look at the research and policy implications for underserved populations**

Pharmacies have long been considered a cornerstone of community health care, but they're closing in record numbers across the country. This session will explore the impact these closures are having, especially in medically underserved areas. Efforts to improve access to prescription drugs and pharmacist services have focused almost exclusively on reducing drug costs, but affordable medications are not easily accessible when a local pharmacy closes.

Objectives:

- Discuss the research and impact of pharmacy closures in low-income, rural and urban areas and whether and how such closures impact medication adherence and equitable pharmacy access.
- Delineate whether and how payment reforms, including increasing reimbursement rates for Medicaid and Medicare prescriptions are being used to protect pharmacies most at-risk for closure, specifically in urban areas, that may have an immediate impact on access for patients.
- Discuss potential policy solutions that may protect pharmacies in predominately black and Latinx communities that can be implemented to reduce disparities in access to pharmacies, pharmacist services and prescription medications.

Presenter: ***Dima Mazen Qato, PharmD, MPH, PhD***
Director, USC Program on Medicines and Public Health, USC Alfred Mann School of Pharmacy, Senior Fellow, USC Schaeffer Center

10:15 AM to 10:30 AM **Break**

10:15 AM – 10:45 AM **Addressing Disparities in Treatments for Patients with Diabetes: a panel discussion highlighting the intersection of policy, research, practice and patient needs.**

Moderator: **Kristi Mitchell, MPH, Co-founder and CEO, Health Equity Outcomes**

Panelists: **David Walton, CEO, T1D Exchange**
Michael Manolakis, PharmD, PhD, SVP, Aon
Health Plan Perspective
Patient Advocate Perspective

Background:

According to the National Diabetes Statistics Report, 38.4 million people have diabetes (11.6% of the U.S. population) which includes 29.7 million people, including 29.4 million adults. Add to that figure the **undiagnosed statistics which are estimated at 8.7 million people** (22.8% of adults with diabetes that remain undiagnosed) and one quickly understands the magnitude of the disease and its impacts.

On the prescription drug side, specialty drugs remain the leading factor in spending, with the demand for GLP-1 medications continuing to skyrocket, and a surge in new drugs in the GLP-1 category expected to drive up costs even further.

On the device side, the use of continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) improves glycemic control and reduces diabetes-related hospitalizations and emergency room service utilization in individuals with diabetes who are treated with intensive insulin regimens. However, studies reveal disparities in use of CGM within racially and ethnically diverse and lower socioeconomic populations, leading to underutilization of CGM in these populations.

On the nutrition side of the equation, the National Academy of Medicine broadly defines nutrition therapy as the treatment of a disease or condition through the modification of nutrient or whole-food intake. Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) is an evidence-based application of the nutrition care process provided by an RDN and is a key component in the management of diabetes.

10:45 AM to 11:25 AM **The Role of Charitable Pharmacies in Addressing Access & Affordability Challenges**

Presenter: **Hillary Blackburn, PharmD, MBA, Chief Pharmacy Officer, Dispensary of Hope**

11:30 AM **Break/Check-out of Rooms**

12:00 PM

Networking Lunch

12:45 PM to 1:45 PM

Breakout Sessions

- *Needed Research, Evidence and Policy Changes to Address Disparities in Medication Use*
- *Stakeholder Collaboration to Address Disparities in Medication Use*

1:45 PM

Stakeholders:

Conceptualizing Learning Networks Across Multi-

A dialogue between AMCP Foundation Leadership and Participants

2:20 PM

Delivering on the Deliverables: Next Steps to Keep the Momentum and the Dialogue Growing and Acknowledgement, Appreciation and Adjournment