

*The National Academies of*  
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

## COVID-19 Vaccines: Leveraging Historical Successes (and Failures) for Equity-Centered Approaches

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AGENDA  
May 13, 2021  
1:00pm – 2:30pm ET

### Webinar

#### Workshop Objectives

1. Review previous historical efforts to vaccinate historically underserved populations to learn whether there are lessons that can apply to the COVID vaccine program.
2. Discuss the prospect of vaccination in the context of systemic racism and the historical marginalization of vulnerable communities.
3. Describe innovative strategies to vaccinate historically underserved communities that relate to past successes or failures.

### MODERATORS

**Octavio N. Martinez, M.D., M.P.H.**  
*Roundtable Member*

**Melissa A. Simon, M.D., M.P.H.**  
*Roundtable Member*

### SPEAKER BIOSKETCHES

**Jacinda Abdul-Mutakabbir, Pharm.D., M.P.H.** is currently an Assistant Professor at Loma Linda School of Pharmacy in Loma Linda, CA. She completed her Doctorate in Pharmacy at the University of Saint Joseph School of Pharmacy, an accelerated three-year pharmacy program, located in Hartford, CT. Following pharmacy school, she completed her pharmacy residency at the Howard University Hospital in Washington, DC. She also completed an Infectious Disease Pharmacokinetics/ Pharmacodynamics (PK/PD) Research Fellowship under the tutelage of Dr. Michael J. Rybak PharmD, MPH, PhD, and went on to earn a Masters of Public Health at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI. As an emerging practitioner, her primary research interests include translating her in vitro research, focusing on multidrug-resistant bacteria, to improve patient treatment strategies in vivo. Her dedication to improving public health has been recognized by the United States Public Health Services, as she was the 2017 recipient of the USPHS Outstanding Service Award. Additionally, her research has led her to be recognized by the European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases one of their 30 under 30 outstanding young scientists, for their ECCMID 2021 31st annual meeting. Dr. Abdul-Mutakabbir continues to be an active member of several professional organization including the American Academy of HIV Medicine

(AAHIVM), Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), American Society of Microbiology (ASM), and the Society of Infectious Disease Pharmacists (SIDP).

**Marina Del Rios, M.D., M.Sc.** is Director of Social Emergency Medicine and Tenured Associate Professor in Emergency Medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago - College of Medicine. She has close to 10 years of experience conducting research in resuscitation science, population health, and health disparities and has received competitive funding from the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association, Medtronic Philanthropy, and the Pritzker Traubert Family Foundation. Dr. Del Rios has a deep commitment to service, spending her time outside of her clinical, research, and teaching responsibilities as a volunteer for multiple health and community service agencies. She is a member of the Illinois Department of Public Health COVID19 Health Equity Task Force, the Restore Illinois Health Justice Workgroup, and the Provider Network of City of Chicago's Racial Equity Rapid Response Team. Dr. Del Rios also serves as Chair of the Health and Policy Committee of Illinois Unidos, a cross-sectoral partnership of elected and appointed officials, health professionals, and leaders of community-based organizations that aims to stop the transmission of COVID-19 and address the pandemic's devastating public health and economic impact in Latinx communities.

**Chuck Sams III, M.L.S.** is Cayuse, Walla Walla, Cocopah, and Yankton Sioux. He grew up on the Umatilla Indian Reservation in Northeast Oregon. He currently serves on the Northwest Power and Conservation Council as a Council Member. His previous positions include Executive and Deputy Executive Director for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR); Communications Director for the CTUIR; Environmental Health and Safety Officer/Planner in the Tribal Planning Office for the CTUIR; President/Chief Executive Officer of Indian Country Conservancy; Executive Director for the Umatilla Tribal Community Foundation; National Director of the Tribal & Native Lands Program for the Trust for Public Land; Executive Director for the Columbia Slough Watershed Council; Executive Director for the Community Energy Project; and President/Chief Executive Officer for the Earth Conservation Corps. Chuck has worked in the non-profit natural resource and conservation management field and Tribal Government for over 25 years. In addition, Chuck serves on the boards of the Oregon Cultural Trust and Gray Family Foundation. Chuck holds a bachelor of science in business administration from Concordia University and a master of legal studies in Indigenous Peoples Law/Federal Indian Law from the University of Oklahoma. He is a veteran of the U.S. Navy where he served as an intelligence specialist. He lives with his wife, Lori Lynn (Reinecke) Sams and their four children on the Umatilla Indian Reservation near Pendleton, Oregon.

**Antonio Tovar, Ph.D. M.A.** has worked on social and environmental justice in agriculture since 2005 when he joined the research team of the Farmworker Association of Florida (FWAF), an organization he directed from 2017 to 2020. Antonio was born in Mexico City although he spent long periods of time at his grandmother's farm. After completed his BA degree in Philosophy at University of Guanajuato and before moving to the United States, he worked as a journalist covering Central America and the Caribbean. Dr. Tovar completed his PhD in Anthropology at the University of Florida and has over 30 publications concerning farmworkers' health and safety. Dr. Tovar is a fellow of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation since 2019 and is looking at the mental health of Hispanic and Haitian farmworkers in South Florida. This year, he began work at the National Family Farm Coalition in Washington D.C. as a Policy Associate while also maintaining some research projects in Florida. He is married to a fellow Anthropologist and has two children.

**Anne Zink, M.D.** is Alaska's Chief Medical Officer. She is experienced in emergency medicine and joined DHSS from the Mat-Su Regional Medical Center, where she served as the Emergency Department medical director (2010-18) and also on the Board of Trustees (2012-18). In addition, she helped create the High-Utilizer Mat-Su (HUMS) (2017-18) program that aims to improve patient health and cost savings

for some of the state's most vulnerable patients. Dr. Zink is a practicing emergency room physician who is passionate about helping to shape and transform our current health care system. In all the work she does, she strives to create work environments, policies, and practices that are data-driven, foster collaboration and build system efficiencies that put patients first. Her priorities as CMO include building stronger partnerships between DHSS and Alaska's health care providers and providing support statewide in locally relevant ways to help establish healthier communities across Alaska. Dr. Zink received her medical degree from Stanford University School of Medicine and completed her residency at the University of Utah.

## PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Winston F. Wong, M.D., M.S. (Chair)**

Scholar-in-Residence  
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Equity, Fielding School of Public Health  
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Associate Professor of Population Health  
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Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion  
Director, Research Group for Underrepresented  
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**Mario R. De La Rosa, Ph.D., M.S.S.A.**

Professor, Public Health and Social Work  
Director, Center for U.S. Latino Research on  
HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse  
Florida International University  
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**Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A.**

Executive Director  
Hogg Foundation for Mental Health  
Associate Vice-President, Division of  
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University of Texas at Austin  
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**Saul Rivas, M.D.**

Assistant Professor  
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University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of  
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**Melissa A Simon, M.D., M.P.H.**

Vice Chair of Clinical Research  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
George H. Gardner Professor of Clinical  
Gynecology  
Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology,  
Preventive Medicine and Medical Social  
Sciences  
Director, Chicago Cancer Health Equity  
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Feinberg School of Medicine  
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**Reginald Tucker-Seeley, Sc.D., Sc.M., M.A.**

Edward L. Schneider Assistant Professor of  
Gerontology  
Leonard Davis School of Gerontology, University  
of Southern California  
Los Angeles, CA

## **NASEM Project Staff**

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**The Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity** of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine has a unique role as the conveners of the nation's experts in health disparities and health equity, with the goal of raising awareness and driving change. The Roundtable works to advance the visibility and understanding of the inequities in health and health care. The Roundtable promotes health equity and the elimination of health disparities by

- Advancing the visibility and understanding of the inequities in health and healthcare among racial and ethnic populations.
- Amplifying research, policy, and community-centered programs.
- Catalyzing the emergence of new leaders, partners and stakeholders.

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