Partnerships and Leading Practices to Improve Maternal Health

SPEAKER BIOS

Patricia ("Trish") M. Witcher, MSN, RNC-OB
Clinical Outcomes Manager, Women’s Services, Northside Hospital

Trish is the clinical outcomes manager for Women’s Services at Northside Hospital, a large provider of obstetric services with nearly 17,000 babies born at the hospital each year. She received a Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing from the University of Nevada Las Vegas and a Master’s Degree of Science in Nursing as a high-risk obstetric clinical nurse specialist from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston.

Trish has presented nationally on high risk and critical care obstetrics, obstetrical liability, and fetal monitoring and has published numerous articles in peer review nursing journals. She is a member of the Georgia Maternal Mortality Review Committee and co-editor of AWHONN’s High Risk and Critical Care Obstetric Nursing, 4th ed, published this year.

Trish’s recent publications that are relevant for the AHA member webinar presentation and discussion on improving maternal health and reducing maternal mortality are listed below:


Robyn Begley, DNP, RN, NEA-BC
CEO, American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE)
Senior Vice President & Chief Nursing Officer, American Hospital Association

Robyn Begley is chief executive officer of the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) and senior vice president, chief nursing officer of the American Hospital Association (AHA). In her role at AONE, she leads a membership organization of more than 9,700 nurse leaders whose strategic focus is excellence in nursing leadership. She oversees a number of key initiatives involving workforce, quality and safety, and future care delivery models. In addition, she works collaboratively with the AHA to ensure the perspective and needs of nurse leaders are heard and addressed in public policy issues related to nursing and patient care.

Begley previously served as vice president of nursing and chief nursing officer at AtlantiCare, a member of Geisinger, in Atlantic City, N.J. During her 35-year tenure, she led AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center
to achieve the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Magnet designation four times. She also worked
with the local NAACP, Hispanic Alliance and Pan Asian leaders to promote diversity in the nursing
workforce by establishing a nursing fellowship and scholarship, as well as a mentoring program for
students.

Begley serves on many boards, most recently as a member of the AONE Board of Directors and chair of
AONE Foundation Board of Directors. Begley earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at the
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New Brunswick, N.J., master’s degree from Widener
University, Chester, Pa. and bachelor’s degree from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. She is
board certified as an advanced nurse executive with the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Jay D. Bhatt, DO, MPH, MA, FACP
SVP/Chief Medical Officer, American Hospital Association
President, Health Research & Educational Trust
Jay Bhatt is the senior vice president and chief medical officer of the American Hospital Association (AHA),
president of HRET and serves on the executive team for the AHA Center for Health Innovation. Most
recently, he was the first chief health officer at the Illinois Health & Hospital Association. In this role, he
led large improvement projects including the Hospital Engagement Network (HEN), which is aimed at
reducing readmissions and hospital-acquired conditions. He has launched several improvement
collaboratives, managed the Medical Executive Forum, led the Midwest Alliance for Patient Safety,
launched a physician leadership academy, and designed and advanced a statewide high-reliability
initiative.

Previously, he was managing deputy commissioner and chief innovation officer for the Chicago
Department of Public Health (CDPH). There he led the implementation of Healthy Chicago — the city’s
public health agenda, innovations in cross-sector partnerships, predictive analytics, epidemiology and
informatics. He led the department to be internationally and nationally recognized in their approach to
using predictive analytics to improve food inspections, chronic disease, West Nile and lead inspections.
He also led a groundbreaking initiative with Advocate South Asian Cardiovascular Center in developing
the South Asian Healthy Eating Benefits program along with a partnership to reimagine community benefit
spending with Presence Health. Under his leadership, the Chicago Department of Public Health was
awarded Local Health Department of the Year, and received an award from the National Forum for Heart
Disease and Stroke Prevention.

He also is a practicing internal medicine physician for Erie Family Health Center in Chicago serving
vulnerable populations and is a member of the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern faculty and
the University of Michigan Medical School faculty. He graduated from the University of Chicago in 1999
with a degree in economics. In 2008, Dr. Bhatt received both his medical degree from the Philadelphia
College of Osteopathic Medicine, and his Master in Public Health degree from the University of Illinois at
Chicago School of Public Health. In 2012, he received his Master’s in Public Administration from the
Harvard Kennedy School of Government as a Zuckerman Leadership Fellow and Mongan Commonwealth
Fund/Harvard Minority Health Policy Fellow. He was a White House Fellows National Finalist in 2013. He
is an American College of Physicians Walter McDonald Young Physician Awardee, 40 under 40 health
innovator award recognition, and selected to the prestigious Presidential Leadership Scholars Program in
2016. He enjoys exploring Chicago with family and friends including trying different restaurants. He also
enjoys teaching dance in the community.