10th Annual New York City Epidemiology Forum

A New Decade of NYCEF: New Tools and Partnerships for New Challenges

April 4, 2024 – 9:00am - 4:15pm

Murphy Auditorium, NYU Langone Health

Time	Session
9:00-9:30	**Registration and Coffee**
9:30-9:40	Welcome and Introduction **Lorna Thorpe, PhD**
9:40-10:30	**Keynote**: "Learning to Sweat the Big Stuff in Epidemiology and Public Health" **Jay Kaufman, PhD,** Introduced by **Lorna Thorpe, PhD**
10:30-11:00	**Awardee Presentations and Q&A** moderated by **Maaike van Gerwen, MD PhD** "A Subsidized and Culturally-Adapted Community Supported Agriculture Program to Improve Diet of Chinese Immigrant Communities" **Celine Chan, MPH** "Validating low-cost indoor air quality monitors to improve exposure monitoring in New York City nail salons" **Rachel L. Thompson, MS**, PhD Candidate
11:00-11:45	**Poster Session A**
11:45-1:00	**Grab-and-go Lunch**
11:45-12:15	**Structured Lunch Sessions:** Alumni Hall 2nd Floor Multipurpose Room (MPR), Medical Sciences Building (MS) Rms. 1-93, 1-94, Smilow Multipurpose Room (MPR)
12:15-1:00	**Career Panel:** moderated by **Hari Iyer, ScD, MPH** Panelists: María Baquero, PhD, MPH; Ulka Campbell, PhD; Alexandra Kranidis, MPH, CPH, CHES, AE-C; Nour Sharara, MPH, MA; Ben Spoer, PhD, MPH
1:00-1:45	**Poster Session B**
1:45-2:30	**Flash Science Presentations** moderated by **Mahdieh Danesh Yazdi, PharmD, MPH, PHD** Presenters: **Isabella Andrade, BA**, MPH candidate **Judy Fordjuoh, MPH** **Steven Medvedovsky, BA**, MD candidate **Peng Wang, PhD** **Sid Zadey, BSMS MScGH**, PhD candidate
2:30-3:15	**Poster Session C**
3:15-4:00	**Keynote**: "Leveraging data to guide addiction services across New York" **Chinazo Cunningham, MD, MS**, introduced by **Ellen Wiewel, DrPH, MHS**
4:00-4:15	Poster Awards and Closing Remarks **Byoungjun Kim, PhD** **Farzana Kapadia, PhD**
4:15-5:00	Reception

Keynote Speakers

Jay Kaufman, PhD

Professor in the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health at McGill University

Jay S. Kaufman is Professor in the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health at McGill University (Montreal, Quebec). He also holds current appointments at the University of Chile, The University of Michigan and The University of North Carolina. Dr. Kaufman earned a doctorate in epidemiologic science from the University of Michigan, and was on the faculty of the University of North Carolina School of Public Health at Chapel Hill and the Carolina Population Center before beginning his current position at McGill University, where he held a Canada Research Chair in Health Disparities (2010-2017). Dr. Kaufman's work focuses on social epidemiology, analytic methodology, causal inference and on a variety of health outcomes including perinatal outcomes and cardiovascular, psychiatric and infectious diseases. He is an editor at the journal "Epidemiology", co-editor of the textbook "Methods in Social Epidemiology" (2nd Edition, 2017), and served as President of the Society for Epidemiologic Research in 2020-2021.

Chinazo Cunningham, MD, MS

Commissioner of the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS)

Dr. Chinazo Cunningham is Commissioner of the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports, where she oversees one of the nation's largest system of substance use and addiction services. She is a physician, trained in internal medicine and addiction medicine, and has spent over 25 years providing care, developing programs, and conducting research with people who use drugs. For decades, she has collaborated with community-based harm reduction organizations and led one of the first programs in the US to integrate addiction treatment into primary care. Her work has focused on improving access to care, utilization of health care services, and health outcomes. Dr. Cunningham has authored over 150 peer-reviewed manuscripts and has been the principal investigator on numerous federally-funded grants. In addition to serving on and chairing several national advisory committees and guideline committees, she has trained hundreds of physicians and has been recognized by local and national awards.

Career Panelists

Hari Iyer, ScD, MPH (moderator)

Assistant Professor, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Hari is an Assistant Professor and cancer epidemiologist at the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey. He studies how environmental exposures and geographic access to care influence progression and survival in men with prostate cancer. He co-leads the Multilevel Tumor Registry for Oncology (METRO) registry-based cohort study of over 800,000 men with prostate cancer, which is supported by the Prostate Cancer Research, UK charitable foundation. Hari has coauthored over 60 publications in leading cancer, environmental health, and health policy journals, and is an expert in use of geospatial data for cancer epidemiology research and environmental exposure assessment. Hari has over a decade of experience contributing to global health research capacity strengthening programs, including leading data analyses for HIV and primary care programs while based in Zambia and Rwanda from 2012-2015, and co-leading a peer-based training program for doctoral students in the US and sub-Saharan Africa as a doctoral student.

Hari earned his AB from Dartmouth College, MPH from the Boston University School of Public Health, and ScD from the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health.

María Baquero, PhD, MPH
Senior Director of Research and Evaluation, Center for Population Health Data Science, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

María Baquero is Senior Director for Research & Evaluation in the Center for Population Health Data Science in the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), where she leads a team of epidemiologists and data analysts responsible for diverse research projects and provision of technical assistance to the agency. As a social epidemiologist, her interest lies in the individual- and neighborhood-level circumstances that shape the health of underserved populations. Incorporating both qualitative and quantitative approaches in her work over the past 25 years, she has implemented community-based program evaluations, documented human rights violations in post-conflict settings and conducted epidemiologic analyses examining health inequities. Dr. Baquero has held appointments with academic institutions and non-governmental organizations based in New York City and in Latin America. Since joining DOHMH in 2017, her areas of focus have included the health and wellbeing of people who have contact with the criminal-legal system and their families, and maternal/infant health among people experiencing homelessness. Prior to DOHMH Dr. Baquero was faculty in the Master's in Public Health (MPH) program at Lehman College, CUNY. She received her BA (History) from Northwestern University, and her MPH (Forced Migration and Health) and PhD (Epidemiology) from Columbia University.

Ulka Campbell, PhD
Head of Scientific Strategy, Aetion

Ulka Campbell has 20 years of experience working as a pharmacoepidemiologist. In Nov 2021, she became the Head of Scientific Strategy within the Science and Research Strategy team at Aetion, Inc, a technology company that provides analytic software and research services to the healthcare industry including biopharma companies, regulators, and payers. In this role, she provides expert methodological and regulatory support on studies across therapeutic areas and leads research to inform regulatory RWE best practices. Previously, she was at Pfizer for 14 years working as an epidemiologist on regulatory studies for products in urology, oncology, and cardiovascular disease and recently as the Head of Safety Surveillance Research, leading a team of epidemiologists responsible for global real-world research strategies for post-approval safety surveillance and evaluation for the entire portfolio. As part of this work, Ulka and her team led studies to address drug safety questions for regulatory decision-making, including fit-for-purpose study design and data source selection, and discussing design and interpretation of results with regulators as needed. In addition, she has co-authored several publications on standards for decision-grade real world studies, causal inference, and epidemiologic methods, is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Epidemiology at Columbia University, and has taught courses in pharmacoepidemiology, causal inference and confounding control methods. She has a BS in biology and a MPH in epidemiology from the University of Michigan, and a PhD in epidemiology from Columbia University. She is based in New York City.

Alexandra Kranidis, MPH, CPH, CHES, AE-C
Division Director, Health Promotions, American Lung Association in New York

Alexandra Kranidis holds a Master of Public Health with a concentration in Community Health from Stony Brook University. She is certified in Public Health, a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) and a Certified Asthma Educator (AE-C). Alexandra is currently a Division Director of Health Promotions at the American Lung Association (Lung Association). She has been managing asthma quality improvement programs across the state of New York at the Lung Association since 2020. Her work includes planning, implementing and evaluating various grant deliverables, as they relate to addressing the burden of childhood asthma. She also serves as an Adjunct Professor at Farmingdale State College, where she teaches courses in the Health Promotion and Wellness department. Prior to her role at the Lung Association, Alexandra managed various chronic disease programs for the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program of Suffolk County.

Nour Sharara, MPH, MA

Public Health Scientist

Nour was born and raised in Dakar (Senegal), moved to Montreal (Canada) as a teenager and completed her MPH in the United States in 2015. Post-MPH, she first explored academic research before returning to West Africa to work as a strategy consultant advising Ministries of Health on Epidemic Preparedness & Response and childhood immunization strategies.

Seeking to work at the intersection of public health and technology, she relocated to the US at the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and joined an early stage public health analytics company, whose mission is to transform sewers into public health observatories. In early 2024, she transitioned out from her role and is currently supporting entrepreneurs working on digital health solutions focused on building high-value health systems.

She received her MPH from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, her MA in Bioethics from King's College London and her B.Sc. from McGill University. She is an Aspen Institute 2017 Health Scholar and an Aspen Institute 2022 New Voices Fellow.

Ben Spoer, PhD, MPH

Co-Director, Metrics and Analytics, NYU Health Dashboard Project

Ben Spoer holds an MPH from Columbia University in Child, Youth, and Family health and a PhD from NYU's School of Global Public Health in Social and Behavioral Health. Dr. Spoer is the Co-Director of Metrics and Analytics at the NYU Health Dashboard project, which produces the City Health Dashboard and Congressional District Health Dashboard. In this capacity Dr. Spoer leads a team of eight MPH- and PhD-level data analysts working to rigorously transform publicly available data into formats more accessible and useful to policymakers. Dr. Spoer's research focuses on health disparities, geospatial methods, and measurement error, and he has authored numerous publications describing the spatial distribution of emerging Social Determinants of Health- and the limitations of administrative geographies to describe health conditions. Dr. Spoer has two children (a cat and a dog), is a hobby leather crafter, and gets embarrassed regularly at jujitsu class.