Dr. Castrucci is an editor and contributing author to The Practical Playbook. Public Health. Primary Care. Together, published by Oxford University Press in 2015. He has contributed more than 60 articles in peer-reviewed journals on topics including public health systems, research, maternal and child health, health promotion, and chronic disease prevention. He has been featured in media including Nation’s Health, Hospitals and Health Networks, Public Health Newswire, the American Journal of Public Health, KevinMD, and the Health Affairs Grantwatch blog.

Dr. Castrucci graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from North Carolina State University and a Master of Arts degree in sociomedical sciences from Columbia University. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Public Health Leadership at the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

PATH 3: INNOVATING TO ENHANCE VALUE AND ACCESS

MODERATOR

Ben Bluml, R.Ph.
Senior Vice President, Research and Innovation
American Pharmacists Association Foundation

Benjamin Bluml is the Senior Vice President for Research and Innovation at the APhA Foundation. Along with his 22-plus years as the principal architect for the patient care models at the APhA Foundation and 12 years of pharmacy practice experience, Bluml is the author of numerous innovative health care software applications and professional journal publications related to his work on collaborative practice, health information technology, inter-disciplinary patient care, and quality improvement. He works with pharmacists, physicians, payers, research organizations, and technology companies across the United States to design and implement innovative patient-centered, team-based care programs and health care service delivery systems. Notable projects and topics that he has published on include Project ImPACT: Hyperlipidemia, Solutions for Securing Patient Privacy, Project ImPACT: Osteoporosis, the Patient Self-Management Program for Diabetes, Consensus Definition of Medication Therapy Management, the Diabetes Ten City Challenge, Project ImPACT: Depression, Project IMPACT: Diabetes, and Project IMPACT: Immunizations.

Bluml has been actively involved in national and international efforts that establish and promote pharmacoinformatics standards designed to improve medication use and health information exchange. He was a founding participant in the development of the Pharmacy Practice Activity Classification (PPAC), a national taxonomy for practicing pharmacists, and coordinated PPAC publication with the National Library of Medicine. Bluml served as a member of the White House Roundtable on the National Pharmaceutical Supply Chain for the President’s Council on Year 2000 Conversion. Additionally, he envisioned and led the American Pharmacists Association 2004 activities that resulted in a consensus definition for Medication Therapy Management from eleven national professional Pharmacy organizations.
Bluml received his Pharmacy Degree from the University of Missouri Kansas City School of Pharmacy. Ben's professional passion is improving people’s lives by optimizing the way health care is delivered. He focuses system change efforts on empowering patients, increasing collaboration, enhancing patient safety, improving outcomes, and reducing total costs for care. Bluml believes that the best way to improve health care is to put patients first, properly align incentives, optimize medication use, increase communication, and to effectively and securely exchange health information.

The UMKC School of Pharmacy Alumni Association recognized him for outstanding service to the profession in 1991. He received the DuPont Pharma Innovative Practitioner Award from the Missouri Pharmacy Association in 1994. American Druggist named him one of the Nation’s 50 Most Influential Pharmacists in 1998, and the University of Missouri Kansas City recognized him with an alumni achievement award in 2010. The following year, Ben was named the Missouri recipient of the prestigious Bowl of Hygeia Award.

**PANELISTS**

**Kalahn Taylor-Clark, PhD, MPH**

**Head of Public Affairs**
**Diabetes and Cardiovascular Franchise, US External Affairs**
**Sanofi**

Kalahn Taylor-Clark, PhD, MPH is the US Head of Public Affairs in the Diabetes and Cardiovascular Unit at Sanofi. Prior to this post, she served as the Global Head of Patient Engagement Strategy at Sanofi, where she was the strategic lead for developing patient-centered engagement capabilities to focus on translating principles of patient centeredness into specific actions throughout the organization. Dr. Taylor-Clark’s work has helped the company to develop, measure, amplify and adapt solutions based on key stakeholder input (e.g. providers, patients, scientific societies and policymakers), that align to emphasize improved patient-relevant outcomes.

Prior to joining Sanofi, Dr. Taylor-Clark served as a Senior Advisor to the Center for Health Policy, Research and Ethics and Assistant Professor in Health Administration and Policy at George Mason University, where she provided strategic guidance on the development and evaluation of patient and consumer engagement activities for a range of stakeholders, including: private and public payers, hospital and integrated health systems, business groups, and policy leaders. Previously, she served as the Director of Health Policy at the National Partnership for Women and Families, where her primary responsibilities were in providing strategic direction on a range of activities related to delivery system and payment reform, including: quality measurement, reduction of health disparities, patient and consumer engagement in patient-centered care delivery and the effective use of health information technology (HIT) to improve patient-reported outcomes measurement. From 2007-2011, Dr. Taylor-Clark led the Patient-Centeredness and Health Equity Portfolios in the Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform at the Brookings Institution in Washington D.C.

Dr. Taylor-Clark holds a BA in International Relations from Tufts University, an MPH from Tufts School of Medicine, and a PhD in Health Policy from Harvard University. She serves as a Member of the Board of Trustees for Tufts University, and as President of the Board of Directors at Prevention Institute in Oakland, CA. She has also lived in Japan, Ghana and France, and speaks French.
William (Tripp) Russell Jennings, Jr., MD, FACEP
Innovation Officer, Vice President
BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina

Dr. Jennings is serving as the Clinical Innovation Officer for Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina. He previously served as the Chief Value and Informatics Officer for Palmetto Health Hospital System and System Vice President for Informatics prior to this position. His areas of focus have included Value Based Healthcare, Emergency Medicine, Population Health, Telehealth, Business Intelligence, Clinical Utilization, Consumerism, and Informatics.

He also served as a Medical Director for the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and as the Chief Medical Informatics Officer for the Palmetto Health Quality Collaborative. He is an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and is a practicing Attending Physician at Palmetto Health Richland Department of Emergency Medicine.

Dr. Jennings earned his undergraduate degree from the College of Charleston and his MD from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. He is a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Medicine. He has previously served as President of the South Carolina College of Emergency Physicians.

Dr. Jennings has earned numerous awards, honors, and grants during his career. He was named the Distinguished Young Alumni of the Year for the University of South Carolina and South Carolina Emergency Medicine Physician of the Year. He has presented to the United States Congress on health IT topics. In addition to being featured by the Wall Street Journal, US News and World Report, Bloomberg Businessweek, and Health Leaders Media, he has been the keynote speaker at many conferences, symposiums, and meetings, as well as various panel discussions regarding health care, informatics, and population health.

Cat Davis Ahmed, MBA
Vice President, Policy and Outreach
FH Foundation

Cat Davis Ahmed is Vice President, Policy and Outreach for the FH Foundation, where she works with individuals with Familial Hypercholesterolemia (FH) and the medical professionals who treat them to raise awareness of FH and improve the understanding, diagnosis, and care of this life-threatening genetic condition that too often leads to early heart disease. As someone who has FH herself, she knows first-hand the impact the disorder can have on individuals and families.

Ms. Davis Ahmed works on a national level to advocate on behalf of individuals with FH with policy makers and other decision makers to ensure that FH is recognized and understood as a distinct genetic disorder affecting approximately 1.3 million Americans. The FH Foundation is a non-profit, patient-centered, research and advocacy organization dedicated to increasing the rate of early diagnosis and encouraging proactive treatment of FH to prevent premature heart disease. Cat holds an MBA from the Yale School of Management.