Purpose:
- Inform National Forum members and stakeholders of successful strategies and practices to improve self-measure blood pressure monitoring.
- Motivate participants to carry out effective strategies to improve self-measure blood pressure monitoring in their settings.

Welcome
John M. Clymer
Executive Director
The National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention

Hon. Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH
20th Surgeon General of the United States
Presidential Fellow and Executive Director of Health Equity Initiatives
Purdue University

An Economic Case for Self-Measured Blood Pressure
Michael W. Cropp, MD, MBA
President and Chief Executive Officer
Independent Health

Solving Barriers to Self-Measured Blood Pressure in the U.S.
Warren A. Jones, MD, FAAFP, National Forum Chair
Captain, United States Navy Medical Corps (Ret.)
Professor Emeritus of Family Medicine, University of Mississippi Medical Center
President, American Academy of Family Physicians, 2001-2002

Interviews

Hilary K. Wall, MPH
Senior Health Scientist
Million Hearts Science Lead
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Stretch Break
Jen Childress, MS, MCHES
Senior Program Manager
National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention

Self-Measured Blood Pressure in the National Hypertension Control Initiative
Ayanna Williams, MPH
Public Health Analyst
Quality/Office of Quality Improvement
Bureau of Primary Health Care
Health Resources and Services Administration

Jeanette Guyton-Krishnan, PhD
Public Health Analyst
Office of Health Center Investment Oversight
Bureau of Primary Health Care
Health Resources and Services Administration

Video: Self-Measurement: How Patients and Care Teams Are Bringing Blood Pressure to Control (National Association of Community Health Centers)
Meg Meador, MPH, C-PHI, CPHQ
Director, Clinical Integration & Education
National Association of Community Health Centers

Integrating SMBP into Care Processes & Workflows
Debra McGrath, MSN, FNP
Director of Health Information Technology
Health Federation

The Importance of Using Validated Devices
Nar Ramkissoon, MPH
Senior Manager, Partner Development Strategy
Lead for the US Blood Pressure Validated Device Listing (VDL) initiative
American Medical Association

Call to Share Actions on SMBP (Facilitated Open Forum)
Janet Wright, MD Director, Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Q & A
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Executive Director
The National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention
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Jen Childress, MS, MCHES
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National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention

Interviews

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Adjourn
John M. Clymer, Executive Director  
National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention

John Clymer is executive director of the National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit that serves as a catalyst for public-private collaboration to prevent cardiovascular disease. Additionally, Clymer serves on the U.S. Community Preventive Services Task Force. He is a Fellow of the Institute for Health Policy and Leadership and adjunct assistant professor at Loma Linda University, and a guest lecturer at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Clymer is the TEDMED Thought Leader for Making Prevention Popular and Profitable. He has authored and co-authored book chapters, testified before various legislatures, given numerous Congressional briefings, and appeared in media such as NBC Nightly News, public radio, and The New York Times. He has served as a subject matter expert at the World Economic Forum’s Annual Meeting in Davos, and on the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Chronic Disease and Malnutrition, and other advisory and governing boards. Clymer led Partnership for Prevention as its President from 2001-2008, when it won passage of landmark Medicare legislation; was recognized by Harvard Business Review for a “Breakthrough Idea;” and, with former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher, established the National Commission on Prevention Priorities. While increasing PfP’s impact, he quadrupled its income.

Dr. Jerome Adams  
Presidential Fellow, Executive Director of Purdue's Health Equity Initiatives, and Distinguished Professor of Practice

Dr. Jerome Adams was appointed as a Presidential Fellow and the Executive Director of Purdue's Health Equity Initiatives on October 1, 2021. He is also a Distinguished Professor of Practice in the departments of Pharmacy Practice and Public Health.

As the 20th U.S. Surgeon General and a prior member of the President’s Coronavirus task force, Dr. Adams has been at the forefront of America’s most pressing health challenges. A regular communicator via tv, radio, and in print, Dr. Adams is an expert not just in the science, but also in communicating the science to the lay public and making it relevant to various audiences. Dr. Adams is a licensed anesthesiologist with a master’s degree in public health and ran the Indiana State Department of Health prior to becoming Surgeon General. In the State Health Commissioner role, he managed a $350 million dollar budget and over 1000 employees and led Indiana’s response to Ebola, Zika, and HIV crises. Notably, Dr. Adams helped convince the Governor and State Legislature to legalize syringe service programs in the state, and to prioritize $13 million in funding to combat infant mortality. As Surgeon General, Dr. Adams was
the operational head of the 6000-person Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, and oversaw responses to 3 back-to-back category 5 hurricanes, and to a once-in-a-century pandemic.

In addition to his recent COVID19 work, Dr. Adams has partnered with and assisted organizations as they navigate the opioid epidemic, maternal health, rising rates of chronic disease, the impacts of rising suicide rates in our Nation, and how businesses can become better stewards and stakeholders in promoting community health.

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**Michael W. Cropp, MD, MBA**  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Independent Health

Michael W. Cropp, M.D., is the president and chief executive officer of Independent Health. Under his leadership, the organization delivers products and services that improve the health of almost 375,000 customers – and has been consistently recognized nationally for excellence in quality, service, and innovation.

His focus on building leadership capacity for sustainable accountable quality care reaches beyond Western New York as he serves in leadership roles on the boards of national health care organizations, including America’s Health Insurance Plans (AHIP). Dr. Cropp is chairman of the Alliance of Community Health Plans (ACHP). In addition, he has established several community initiatives to improve access, quality, and affordability of health care. He is the founding chairman of the P2 Collaborative of Western New York – one of the original grantees in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Aligning Forces for Quality (AF4Q) grant. He is also the founding chairman of the Western New York Clinical Information Exchange (HEALTHeLINK), a consortium of multiple community stakeholders working to provide electronic access to health information across our entire community – a recipient of the government’s Beacon Community award.

Dr. Cropp’s approach of engaging physicians as partners, implementing initiatives with community-minded results, and focusing on customer-centric ideals have earned Independent Health both local and national recognition. For three consecutive years, Independent Health is the highest ranked health insurance plan in the New York/New Jersey region by J.D. Power and Associates Member Health Insurance Plan StudySM. The company has also maintained “Excellent” accreditation status with the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), an independent organization that evaluates health plans throughout the country. In 2009 and 2010, Independent Health was the highest rated health plan in the nation for customer service according to NCQA’s Quality Compass®.

Dr. Cropp received his bachelor’s and medical degrees from Brown University, and completed his residency in family practice at Memorial Hospital in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, which is
affiliated with Brown University. In addition to his medical education and training, Dr. Cropp earned an M.B.A. from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Warren A. Jones, MD, FAAFP
Captain, United States Navy Medical Corps (Ret.)
Chair Emeritus of Family Medicine
University of Mississippi Medical Center

Warren Jones, MD, FAAFP has over thirty years of experience in health care. Notably, he founded and established the Mississippi Institute for Improvement of Geographic Minority Health and Health Disparities (MIGMH) at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMC). Over the course of his tenure there, Jones secured approximately $38 million for MIGMH and its constituent programs.

Jones’ other professional experience includes directing the State of Mississippi’s Medicaid Program. As program director, he was responsible for providing health care for over 768,000 Mississippians. He also developed and implemented the Mississippi Medicaid Medical Home program that allowed for annual physical examinations and health assessments. Over the course of his career, Jones has been recognized for his pioneering efforts in the field of health as well as a distinguished educator. He was recognized as Outstanding Minority Educator in the State of Mississippi and was elected the first and only African American President of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

He was also the first African American appointed as an associate vice chancellor at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Jones is the Chair Emeritus of Family Medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMC), Chair Emeritus of the National Medical Association’s Family Medicine Section, and Immediate Distinguished Professor of Health Policy at UMC. Prior to Hampton, he held the NIH Endowed Chair in Health Disparities Research at Dillard University, his undergraduate alma mater. He is the recipient of many awards and honors including an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Tougaloo College. A native of New Orleans, Dr. Jones is a 1978 graduate of the Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans. He is married to the former Gennie Lacy of Pickens, MS and the father of six children: Aaron, Keith, Winston, Deanna, Cassandra, and Madison.
Hilary K. Wall, MPH
Senior Scientist, CDC

Hilary K. Wall, MPH is a Senior Scientist in the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Ms. Wall serves as the Science Lead for Million Hearts®, a national initiative co-led by CDC and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services with the goal of preventing one million heart attacks and strokes by 2027. In this role, she provides scientific leadership and expertise to a portfolio of work related to health care systems change, health information technology, and their intersection with public policy. For almost 20 years, Ms. Wall has created evidence-based tools for and provided technical assistance to public health professionals, clinicians, and community-based organizations in cardiovascular disease prevention. Prior to coming to CDC, Ms. Wall served as an Epidemiologist for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health’s Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention and Control Program and at the Yale Prevention Research Center, leading and analyzing data for randomized controlled trials in cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

Ayanna Williams, MPH
Public Health Analyst
Quality/ Office of Quality Improvement
Bureau of Primary Health Care
Health Resources and Services Administration

Ayanna Williams serves as a Public Health Analyst in HRSA’s Bureau of Primary Health Care, Office of Quality Improvement. She serves on the Infectious Disease and Community Health team where she leads the Heart Health and Chronic Conditions technical assistance portfolio for nearly 1400 health centers. Since 2020 she has served as the Project Lead for HRSA’s National Hypertension Control Initiative, a three-year effort, which provided nearly $90 million in supplemental funding to 450+ health centers to develop and execute an SMBP monitoring program to increase the percentage of patients with controlled hypertension. Williams is a graduate of Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health.
Jeanette Guyton-Krishnan, PhD
Investment Oversight Advisor
Health Resources and Services Administration
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Dr. Guyton-Krishnan is an Investment Oversight Advisor in HRSA’s Bureau of Primary Health Care, Office of Health Center Investment Oversight. She provides programmatic oversight and technical assistance for the supplemental funding portfolio to nearly 1400 HRSA-funded health centers.

She also serves on the Communication’s Team for HRSA’s National Hypertension Control Initiative, a three-year and nearly $90 million supplemental funding effort to over 450 health centers, designed to increase the number of adult patients with controlled hypertension through the use of evidence-based practices, including using self-measured blood pressure technology.

Dr. Guyton-Krishnan received her PhD from The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Meg Meador, MPH, C-PHI, CPHQ
Director, Clinical Integration & Education
National Association of Community Health Centers

Margaret (Meg) Meador serves as Director of Clinical Integration & Education at the National Association of Community Health Centers. She leads several CDC-sponsored national quality improvement projects with community health centers focused on improving cardiovascular outcomes with high-risk and vulnerable patients.

Her research interests include chronic disease prevention, implementation science, health IT, and innovative primary care models.

She earned a BA in Human Biology from Stanford University, her MPH from UNC-Chapel Hill, and her Certificate in Public Health Informatics from Johns Hopkins University.
Debra McGrath, Director of Health Information Technology, Health Federation of Philadelphia, is a nurse practitioner and Healthcare IT professional. Ms. McGrath joined the Health Federation in 2012 as a consultant and became a full-time employee in 2017. She has extensive experience helping groups including FQHC’s with successful HIT implementation and optimization projects. In addition, she has broad expertise in assisting medical practices in creating a governance structure for the administration of HIT that ensures a reliable medical record containing accurate and complete patient data. She earned a bachelor’s degree in nursing from West Chester University, a master’s degree in perinatal nursing from the University of Pennsylvania, attended Wilmington University to earn a post-master Family Nurse Practitioner certificate and has completed doctoral course work in the College of Information and Technology at Drexel University. She has helped many practices create a foundation for the ongoing development of the system that supports the work of the practice for many years and is able to add a unique perspective from both the clinical and information technology points of view.

Nar Ramkissoon, MPH
Senior Manager, Improving Health Outcomes

Nar Ramkissoon, MPH is Senior Manager, Ecosystem Development in Improving Health Outcomes at the American Medical Association. Nar leads collaborations, programs, and policy efforts to remove barriers to cardiovascular disease prevention, enable adoption of self-measured blood pressure (SMBP), and ensure access to and availability of accurate and validated blood pressure measurement devices. Nar leads the US Blood Pressure Validated Device Listing (VDL), the only listing of its kind in the US that enables clinicians and patients to identify blood pressure devices that are validated for clinical accuracy. He also works with payers, employers, and other key stakeholders on payment, reimbursement, and coverage policies particularly focused on hypertension control. Nar has a background in healthcare consulting and holds a Master of Public Health from DePaul University.
Janet S. Wright, MD, FACC  
Director, Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  

Dr. Wright was appointed director in the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention in July 2021, after returning to CDC from a two-year detail in the Office of the Surgeon General as the acting Director of Science and Policy. During her service, the Office produced a Surgeon General’s Advisory on Marijuana and the Developing Brain; two Surgeon General’s Reports (Tobacco Cessation and Community Health and Economic Prosperity); and three Surgeon General’s Calls to Action (Hypertension, Maternal Health, and Suicide Prevention). She received the 2020 Surgeon General’s Award for Exemplary Service.

From 2011 to 2019, Dr. Wright served as executive director of Million Hearts®, a national HHS initiative that CDC co-leads with CMS to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes over a five-year period. Prior to federal service, Dr. Wright served as Senior Vice President for Science and Quality at the American College of Cardiology from 2008 to 2011, providing medical and scientific oversight of clinical guidelines, performance measures, health policy statements, and appropriate use criteria; quality improvement projects; and the National Cardiovascular Data Registry.

Dr. Wright practiced cardiology for many years in Chico, California and served on ACC’s Board of Trustees, NCQA’s Physician Program Committee, and the Center for Information Therapy, a non-profit organization committed to the provision of personalized health information during each health encounter. Dr. Wright received her MD from the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center and completed her internal medicine residency at Children’s Hospital and Adult Medical Center and her fellowship in cardiology at San Francisco General Hospital and the University of California, San Francisco.
Jen Childress, MS, MCHES
Senior Program Manager
National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention

Jen Childress manages the National Forum’s Value & Access and Move with the Mayor initiatives. Jen brings 20 years’ experience in the field of health promotion. She co-created & launched HealthLead®, a comprehensive workplace and academic health promotion program accreditation initiative designed to assist organizations and universities in enhancing their health and wellness management policies. Jen has over a decade of leadership in both the private and non-profit sectors organizing events & convening stakeholders, including recruiting and educating lay leaders, senior leaders, & community champions. In 2016, she was named one of the National Top Ten Business Women of the American Business Women’s Association (ABWA) for her contributions to business, community & the association.

Jen holds a master’s degree in Health Promotion Management & certificates in Personal Fitness Training, Coaching and Health Education. She has authored content published in peer-reviewed articles and textbooks.

Acquanetta Warren
Mayor, Fontana, California

Elected as mayor in December 2010 and overwhelmingly re-elected in 2014 and 2018, Acquanetta Warren is serving her third term as the mayor of the City of Fontana. Mayor Warren focuses her administration on bolstering economic development, creating educational opportunities, improving public safety, and advocating for a healthier community.

During her eight years as a councilwoman and now third term as mayor, Warren has spearheaded significant economic growth and infrastructure improvement initiatives, including four reconstructed freeway interchanges resulting in reduced traffic congestion, safer streets, and ease of facilitating the movement of goods throughout San Bernardino County. Ms. Warren has played a critical role in positioning Fontana as a supply chain hub that provides critical goods and services to businesses in the United States and throughout the world.

To continue this economic growth, Mayor Warren began the “Mayor’s Manufacturing Council,” which saw more than 500 women attend the first annual Inland Empire Women in Manufacturing event.

From the day Mayor Warren was inaugurated, she has emphasized that Fontana is “Open for Business” and works directly with the Fontana Chamber of Commerce to support the needs of
the business community. This effort was rewarded in 2017 with the City being ranked fourth in California in the five-year annual growth of retail sales. To showcase businesses that call Fontana home, Mayor Warren started a television show titled Open for Business. The segment features local businesses and the services they provide.

Ensuring that every child in Fontana receives the highest level of education and career readiness, Ms. Warren declared a State of Emergency on education in 2019. Since then, she formed the Mayor’s Education Coalition – a network of schools, businesses, and local leaders – committed to preparing students for current and future job and career opportunities after graduation.

Mayor Warren strives to improve public safety. In 2013, Fontana was named one of the top 20 safest communities in the country. Continuing to keep the community safe, the Mayor holds open conversations connecting the community with the police officers that serve to protect them.

Realizing that a strong economy requires a healthy community, Mayor Warren founded the award-winning and model program across the nation, Healthy Fontana. The program promotes an active community lifestyle and teaches smart nutrition choices. Stemming from Healthy Fontana is the Fontana Walks! program. What began as a challenge to the community to cumulatively walk 2 billion steps in 2017 has turned into monthly walks with nearly 9 billion steps taken to date.

Through Mayor Warren’s efforts, the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) named the City of Fontana the number one mid-sized city in the nation for eliminating childhood obesity in 2016.

Ms. Warren has received numerous recognitions and several awards for her efforts on health education, including the Helen Putnam Award of Excellence in 2019 and 2008, the Health Champion Award for Southern California Elected Officials from the California Center for Public Health in 2017, and the California Health & Public Advocacy Health Champion Award in 2015.

Mayor Warren earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science/Urban Studies from Occidental College and an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Theology from Next Dimension Bible College. Ms. Warren is a member of the Water of Life Community Church and has three children and three grandchildren.