

Panelist Bios

Vice Admiral Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH, US Surgeon General



Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH, the 20th Surgeon General of the United States, was sworn into office by Vice President Mike Pence on September 5, 2017. Dr. Adams, a board-certified anesthesiologist, served as Indiana State Health Commissioner from 2014 to 2017. Dr. Adams, a Maryland native, has bachelor's degrees in both biochemistry and psychology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, a master of public health degree from the University of California at Berkeley, and a medical degree from Indiana University School of Medicine.

Dr. Adams was also an associate professor of clinical anesthesia at Indiana University School of Medicine and a staff anesthesiologist at Eskenazi Health, where he was chair of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee. He has served in leadership positions at a number of professional organizations, including the American Medical Association, the Indiana State Medical Association, and the Indiana Society of Anesthesiologists. He is the immediate past chair of the Professional Diversity Committee for the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

As health commissioner, Dr. Adams presided over Indiana's efforts to deal with the state's unprecedented HIV outbreak. In this capacity, he worked directly with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as with state and local health officials and community leaders, and brought the widest range of resources, policies, and care available to stem the epidemic affecting that community.

He also helped with the successful launch of Indiana's state-based, consumer-driven alternative to Medicaid expansion and worked with the state legislature to secure more than \$10 million to combat infant mortality in high-risk areas of the state.

Dr. Adams' motto as Surgeon General is "better health through better partnerships." As Surgeon General, Dr. Adams is committed to maintaining strong relationships with the public health community and forging new partnerships with non-traditional partners, including business and law enforcement.

He has pledged to lead with science, facilitate locally led solutions to the nation's most difficult health problems, and deliver higher quality healthcare at lower cost through patient and community engagement and better prevention.

As Surgeon General, Dr. Adams oversees the operations of the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, which has approximately 6,500 uniformed health officers who serve in nearly 600 locations around the world to promote, protect, and advance the health and safety of our nation and our world.

Laura E. Riley, MD



Laura Riley, MD, a Boston native, received her undergraduate education at Harvard University; her medical degree at the University of Pittsburgh and her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Pittsburgh-Magee Women's Hospital. She completed subspecialty training in maternal-fetal medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital and in infectious disease at Boston University Medical Center.

Dr. Riley leads the obstetrics and gynecology department at Weill Cornell Medicine and New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center—which encompasses seven divisions and 52 full-time clinical faculty. She also leads the New York-Presbyterian Alexandra Cohen Hospital for Women and Newborns, which will comprise the top five-and-a-half floors of the New York-Presbyterian David H. Koch Center when it opens in 2020, a state-of-the-art facility where more than 7000 deliveries per year will be done.

Until recently, Dr. Riley was vice chair of obstetrics at Massachusetts General Hospital, where she practiced high-risk obstetrics with an emphasis on infectious disease complications of pregnancy.

Dr. Riley has participated in multiple research initiatives, including epidural anesthesia and fever, maternal immune response to hepatitis C, and pertussis vaccination. Nationally, Dr. Riley serves as a consultant to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on perinatal HIV testing and prevention of group B strep. She is the chair of the Immunization Task Force at the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and was the first ob/gyn voting member on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Dr. Riley also dedicates time to educate the general public about women's health issues. She has appeared on TV and radio several times and is quoted in many major publications, including Newsweek and The New York Times. She has written two books on pregnancy for consumers, titled "You and Your Baby: Pregnancy" and "You and Your Baby: Healthy Eating During Pregnancy."

William Schaffner, MD (Moderator)

William Schaffner, MD, is medical director of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) and professor of preventive medicine and infectious diseases at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He also serves as a hospital epidemiologist at Vanderbilt University Hospital.

Dr. Schaffner is a past-president of NFID and is a member of numerous other professional societies, including the Infectious Diseases Society of America, American College of Physicians, Society of Healthcare Epidemiology of America, and American Public Health Association. He currently serves as NFID liaison to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Dr. Schaffner is active in the field of infectious disease research and has authored or co-authored more than 400 published studies, reviews, and book chapters on infectious diseases. He currently serves on the editorial board of a number of scientific journals, including The Journal of Infectious Diseases, Vaccine, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. He is a featured blog author for The Huffington Post and Infectious Disease News.



His work has focused on all aspects of infectious diseases including epidemiology, infection control, and immunization. He was the recipient of the inaugural 2017 National Vaccine Program Office UpShot Award for excellence in vaccine communication. In 2013, he received the John P. Utz Leadership Award from NFID for his longstanding service to the organization and the field of infectious diseases. In 2009, he received the James D. Bruce Award from the American College of Physicians for distinguished contributions to preventive medicine. Dr. Schaffner has worked extensively on the effective use of vaccines in both pediatric and adult populations. He is a strong proponent of collaboration between academic medical centers and public health institutions.

Wendy Sue L. Swanson, MD, MBE



Wendy Sue Swanson, MD, MBE, is chief of digital Innovation and author of the Seattle Mama Doc Blog for Seattle Children's Hospital. She is working to revolutionize health communications by using social and digital media to bridge the gap between parents and doctors. As the first physician blogger for a US hospital, she has led the way for novel use of social media in health care. Swanson speaks in the US and internationally on physician use of social media, digital health, and innovation in advocacy and public health.

Dr. Swanson founded Digital Health at Seattle Children's in 2013, leading a team in innovation by testing and creating new digital tools to leverage the wisdom of patients, families, and providers. Dr. Swanson uses her voice to translate science to the public.

She is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics Council on Communications and Media and an official spokesperson. She is on the Board of Advisors for Parents magazine and is a platinum fellow on the board for the Mayo Clinic Center for Social Media. She is a weekly medical contributor with NBC affiliate KING 5 News in Seattle. Dr. Swanson is an advocate on the topic of vaccines and she was named a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Childhood Immunization Champion in 2012. She was named to TIME Magazine's Best Twitter Feeds of 2013. Her first book, "Mama Doc Medicine: Finding Calm and Confidence in Parenting, Child Health, and Work-Life Balance," was published by the American Academy of Pediatrics and is a Gold Award Recipient of the Mom's Choice Awards.

Dr. Swanson graduated with honors in psychology from Kenyon College. She earned a medical degree and master's in bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine and then completed her residency at Seattle Children's Hospital.