

2025

ANNUAL PROGRAM

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION/ W. MONTAGUE COBB SYMPOSIUM

DISTINGUISHED COBB SPEAKER



Alison Whelan, M.D.
*Chief Academic Officer
American Association of
Medical Colleges (AAMC)*

2025 COBB AWARDEES



Paula Johnson, M.D.
*President
Wellesley College*



Terry Mason, M.D.
*Former Chief Operating Officer
Cook County Department of Public Health*

CODE, CONTEXT, AND CARE:
AI AT THE CROSSROADS OF HEALTHCARE, RESEARCH,
AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



2025 JANE COOKE WRIGHT, M.D., ONCOLOGY SYMPOSIUM AND POSTER WALK 1 CME

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Joseph Mikhael, M.D., Chief Medical Officer,
International Myeloma Foundation

2025 PROJECT INCREASE MINORITY PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS OF CLINICAL TRIALS (IMPACT) 2.0 SYMPOSIUM 3 CME

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Lisa Lewis, M.P.H., Director, FasterCures,
Milken Institute Health

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About The Cobb Institute	3
Sponsors and Contributors.	4
Schedule of Events	5
Disclosures of Commercial Relationships.	6
Planning Committee	6
Welcome from the President & CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors	7
2025 Honorees	
W. Montague Cobb Lifetime Achievement Award	8
Cato T. Laurencin Lifetime Research Award.	10
Distinguished Cobb Lecturer	12
Cobb Institute Signature Programs	14
2025 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)/W. Montague Cobb Symposium: “Code, Context, and Care: AI at the Crossroads of Healthcare, Research, and Workforce Development”	15
Cobb Scholars Program Convening	23
2024 Scientific Contributions and Institutional Highlights	28
Featured Collaborations.	30
2025 Jane Cooke Wright, M.D. Oncology Symposium & Poster Walk	31
2024 Project IMPACT (Increase Minority Participation and Awareness of Clinical Trials) 2.0 Symposium	38

ABOUT THE COBB INSTITUTE

The W. Montague Cobb/National Medical Association (NMA) Health Institute (The Cobb Institute), a 501(c)(3) in Washington, DC, engages in innovative research and knowledge dissemination for the reduction and elimination of racial and ethnic health disparities. Founded in 2004, the Institute honors the legacy of William Montague Cobb



M.D., Ph.D., LL.B., a distinguished physician, anthropologist, and professor of medicine and anatomy at the Howard University School of Medicine. In addition to hosting the Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities, the Institute collaborates with public agencies, private entities, academic medical centers, including the medical schools of the historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), and—equally important—communities. The Institute also provides opportunities for early career doctorates to receive intensive mentoring and networking in the areas of research, policy and practice. With funding from governmental agencies such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as well as substantial in-kind contributions, the Institute continues to cultivate a trusted and proven network of diverse stakeholders committed to solving racial inequities in health.

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Betty Crutcher, Ph.D.
Terone Green, M.P.A.
Earlexia Norwood, M.D.
Yashika Watkins, Ph.D.
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*Editor in Chief, Journal of Racial and
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Jasmyne Lott
Intern, Communications

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025

17th Annual Walk a Mile with a Child

8:00 AM–12:00 PM

Honoring of Cobb Awardees at NMA Opening & Awards Ceremony

Location: Grand Ballroom West

6:00–7:00 PM

SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025

2025 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)/W. Montague Cobb Symposium: *Code, Context, and Care: AI at the Crossroads of Healthcare, Research, and Workforce Development* 2 CME

Location: International Ballroom North - Level 2

1:45–3:45 PM

Livestream:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1231091354945294>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLCDvYJHDuY>

Exhibit Hall Opening and Reception

5:00–7:00 PM

Cobb Institute Reception sponsored by The Cato T. Laurencin Institute for Regenerative Engineering

7:00–8:30 PM

By Invitation

UConn | UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

THE CATO T. LAURENCIN INSTITUTE FOR
REGENERATIVE ENGINEERING

MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025

2025 NMA Project IMPACT 2.0 Symposium on Representation in Clinical Trials, “Transforming Clinical Trials Towards Health Equity” (A program of the NMA Project IMPACT 2.0, in Collaboration with The Cobb Institute) 3 CME

Location: Williford A - Level 3

8:00 AM–11:00 PM

2025 Cobb Scholars Convening and Myeloma Scholars Forum: “Navigating Research Success in Today's Environment.” (In collaboration with the International Myeloma Foundation) 1 CME

Location: Grand Tradition - Lower Level

1:00–3:30 PM

2025 Jane Cooke Wright, M.D., Oncology Symposium, “Precision Medicine: Using Innovation to Move Cancer Care Forward” 1 CME

Location: Salons A3 & 4 - Lower Level

3:45–5:15 PM

A program of Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health, the NMA Oncology Section, NMA Internal Medicine Section, International Myeloma Foundation, and The Cobb Institute



DISCLOSURES OF COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Standards for Commercial Support require that we collect commercial interest information from faculty for identifying conflicts of interest, and for resolving those conflicts. Accordingly, all persons in a position to affect the educational content of the activity must complete a full disclosure form prior to the activity. Additionally, we request copies of all speaker

presentations (these aid in determining and resolving potential conflicts). Faculty disclosures, or lack thereof, must be made known to learners prior to the activity. No undisclosed financial relationships for speakers nor the planning committee. Any disclosed financial relationships did not influence the planning and content of the program and no such commercial products will be discussed in the program.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

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Randall C. Morgan, Jr., M.D., M.B.A.
President and Founding CEO, W. Montague Cobb/NMA
Health Institute (The Cobb Institute)

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Chair, Department of Trauma and Burn
John H. Stroger Jr., Hospital of Cook County
Board Chairman, The Cobb Institute

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Virginia Price, M.D., M.P.H.
President, National Medical Association

Cato T. Laurencin, M.D., Ph.D.
University Professor
CEO, The Cato T. Laurencin Institute for Regenerative
Engineering
University of Connecticut
Editor-In-Chief, *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health
Disparities*

FACULTY & STAFF

Doris Browne, M.D., M.P.H.

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Charmaine L. Green, D.Min., M.Div., M.S.

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WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO AND BOARD CHAIRMAN

Whether you are joining us in person at the 2025 NMA Convention and Scientific Assembly in Chicago or participating virtually, we are honored to welcome you to the W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute's Annual Program. Now in its 21st year, the Cobb Institute continues to serve as a vital convener at the intersection of biomedical research, inclusive innovation, and healthcare workforce transformation. This year's program reflects the urgency of the moment, featuring cornerstone gatherings that foster leadership and scholarship among both emerging and established voices in medicine and biomedical science.

We are proud to welcome Dr. Alison Whelan, Chief Academic Officer of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), as our 2025 Cobb Lecturer. Joining her as our Featured Speaker is Dr. Ronnie Sebro, Professor of Radiology, Epidemiology, and Imaging Physics at MD Anderson Cancer Center and Deputy Editor of *Artificial Intelligence: Radiology*. Together, they will lead the 2025 RWJF/W. Montague Cobb Symposium session, "Code, Context, and Care: AI at the Crossroads of Healthcare, Research, and Workforce Development." This timely conversation will bring together leaders from clinical practice, public health, ethics, and industry to explore how artificial intelligence is reshaping healthcare—and what it means for equity, access, and trust. We are especially pleased to share that this year's RWJF Convening is supported by the Cato T. Laurencin Institute for Regenerative Engineering at the University of Connecticut.

The International Myeloma Foundation is generously supporting this year's Cobb Scholars Convening, deepening our shared commitment to mentorship, innovation, and the cultivation of future leaders in medicine and research. We warmly invite current and incoming Cobb Scholars, Myeloma Research Scholars, and student leaders from the Student National Medical Association, the NMA Postgraduate Section, and the Pre-Cobb Scholars Program to join us. Your presence and participation are vital as we continue building a community rooted in excellence, and community-informed scientific practice.

This year also marks the presentation of our most distinguished honors:

- The **W. Montague Cobb Lifetime Achievement Award** to Dr. Terry Mason, Former Chief Operating Officer of the Cook County Department of Public Health, and
- The **Cato T. Laurencin Lifetime Research Award** to Dr. Paula Johnson, President of Wellesley College.

In addition to these signature events, our 2025 program includes collaborative symposia that address some of the most pressing issues in research and care. The *Project IMPACT 2.0 Symposium on Representation in Clinical Trials* will examine persistent gaps in clinical research and the structural changes needed to ensure diversity in study participation. The *Jane Cooke Wright, M.D. Oncology Symposium* continues to honor Dr. Wright's pioneering legacy with a dynamic agenda focused on equitable cancer care, scientific innovation, and representation.

We invite you to learn more about our work at www.thecobbinstitute.org and be part of transformative conversations shaping real and lasting change.

Sincerely,



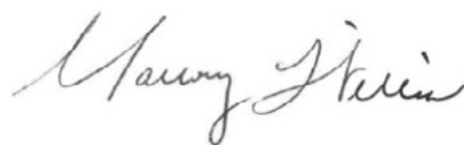
Randall C. Morgan Jr., M.D., M.B.A.
President and CEO
W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute (The Cobb Institute)



Randall C. Morgan Jr.,
M.D., M.B.A.
President and CEO



Mallory Williams,
M.D., M.P.H.
Board Chairman



Mallory Williams, M.D., M.P.H.
Chair, Department of Trauma and Burn
John H. Stroger Jr., Hospital of Cook County
Board Chairman, The Cobb Institute

ANNUAL HONOREE PROGRAMS

Each year, The Cobb Institute presents the W. Montague Cobb Lifetime Achievement Award, the Cato T. Laurencin M.D., Ph.D. Lifetime Research Award, and Distinguished Cobb Lecturer. These honorees are celebrated at the Opening and Awards Ceremony of the National Medical Association (NMA) Convention and Scientific Assembly. Additionally, a W. Montague Cobb Reception is held in their honor during the evening of the W. Montague Cobb Scientific Symposium and Lectureship at the NMA Convention.

2025 W. MONTAGUE COBB LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Terry Mason, M.D.

Former Chief Operating Officer, Cook County Department of Public Health

We are honored to present Dr. Terry Mason with the 2025 W. Montague Cobb Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his unwavering commitment to public health, health equity, and innovative care delivery. A urologist, health system leader, and community advocate, Dr. Mason has dedicated over four decades to improving health outcomes for underserved populations through both clinical excellence and bold public health leadership.

As Chief Operating Officer of the Cook County Department of Public Health, Dr. Mason has overseen critical efforts in disease prevention, emergency preparedness, and health promotion across one of the largest and most diverse counties in the United States. Prior to this role, he served as Commissioner of Health for the City of Chicago, directing a workforce of more than 1,200 public health professionals and managing a \$200 million budget. His strategic leadership helped shape local responses to pressing urban health challenges and earned widespread recognition for transparency and public engagement.

Dr. Mason's impact extends beyond administration. In the early 1990s, he became a trusted voice in Chicago's Black community through his radio show, Doctor in the House, where he translated complex medical topics into accessible health messages. He later founded the Center for New Life, a wellness initiative integrating diet and

exercise to treat chronic disease. In 2004, he launched the Restar4Health campaign, empowering residents to make healthier dietary choices and championing food justice as a cornerstone of community health.

A graduate of Loyola University and the University of Illinois' Abraham Lincoln School of Medicine, Dr. Mason completed residencies in general surgery and urology, eventually establishing a specialized practice focused on male erectile dysfunction and prostate cancer. He served as National Chairman of Urology for the National Medical Association and played a pivotal role in the National Black Leadership Initiative on Cancer.

Throughout his career, Dr. Mason has remained a dedicated educator, advocate, and changemaker. His advocacy work has been featured in Ebony, Chicago Tonight, My Fox Chicago, and the groundbreaking film Forks Over Knives.

By honoring Dr. Terry Mason with the W. Montague Cobb Lifetime Achievement Award, we celebrate a trailblazer whose leadership, vision, and compassion have shaped the health landscape of Chicago and beyond. His legacy embodies the spirit of Dr. Cobb—bridging medicine, equity, and community through a life of distinguished service.

ABOUT THE W. MONTAGUE COBB LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Named for William Montague Cobb, M.D., Ph.D. (1904–1990), Physical Anthropologist, Anatomist, Activist, and Prolific Writer.

HISTORY

Dr. Cobb dedicated his life to promoting civil rights and combating segregation and discrimination in medical education and healthcare. To honor his contributions, the W. Montague Cobb Lifetime Achievement Award was established in 2006.

GENERAL CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD

Recognizes individuals with over 20 years of consistent contributions in the field of medicine.

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS:

2024 Joan Y. Reede, M.D., M.S., M.P.H., M.B.A., Dean for Diversity and Community Partnership, Harvard Medical School

2023 Wayne A. I. Frederick, M.D., M.B.A., President, Howard University; Charles R. Drew Professor of Surgery, Howard University College of Medicine

2022 Valerie Montgomery Rice, M.D., President and CEO, Morehouse School of Medicine

2021 Hannah Valantine, M.D., Inaugural Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity, National Institutes of Health (NIH); Senior Investigator, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)

2020 Frank S. Royal, Sr., M.D., Former Chairman and Honorary Trustee, Meharry Medical College; Former Chairman, Board of Trustees, Virginia Union University

2019 Carolyn Barley-Britton, M.D., Associate Professor of Neurology, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, Vagelos College of Physicians & Surgeons

2018 Nelson Adams, M.D., Chairman, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Jackson North Medical Center; Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Meharry Medical College; Chairman of the Board, Sunshine State Health Plan; Trustee Emeritus, Barry University

2017 Edith P. Mitchell, M.D., MACP, Past President, National Medical Association (NMA); Enterprise Vice President for Cancer Disparities, Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health; Director of the Center to Eliminate Cancer Disparities and Professor of Medicine and Medical Oncology at Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University; National Cancer Institute's Blue Ribbon Panel; NIH Council of Councils; Appointed Member, President's Cancer Panel, 2019–2023

2016 Reed V. Tuckson, M.D., Managing Director, Tuckson Health Connections

2015 Alma R. George, M.D., Past President, NMA

2014 John Ruffin, Ph.D., Former Director, NIH Office of Minority Health

2013 Roselyn Payne Epps, M.D., M.P.H., M.A., Professor Emerita of Pediatrics and Child Health, Howard University School of Medicine

2012 Louis Sullivan, M.D., Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); Former President, Morehouse School of Medicine

2011 LaSalle Leffall, M.D., Past President, American Cancer Society; Former Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery, Howard University Hospital

2010 John Nelson, M.D., M.P.H., Past President, American Medical Association (AMA)

2009 Vivian W. Pinn, M.D., Past President, NMA; Former Director, NIH Office of Women's Health; Chair, Department of Pathology, Howard University College of Medicine

2008 David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D., Former U.S. Surgeon General; President, Meharry Medical College; Former Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

2007 Edith Irby Jones, M.D., Past President, NMA

2006 W. Michael Byrd, M.D., M.P.H., Public Health Scientist, Harvard School of Public Health



2025 CATO T. LAURENCIN LIFETIME RESEARCH AWARD



Paula A. Johnson, M.D., M.P.H.
President, Wellesley College

We are proud to recognize Dr. Paula A. Johnson with the 2025 Cato T. Laurencin Lifetime Research Award in honor of her extraordinary contributions to medical research, women's health, health equity, and leadership in science and education. As a physician-scientist, academic leader, and public health advocate, Dr. Johnson has transformed the landscape of healthcare through her integrative vision, groundbreaking research, and lifelong dedication to ensuring that sex and gender are central to science and care.

A cardiologist by training, Dr. Johnson founded the Connors Center for Women's Health and Gender Biology at Brigham and Women's Hospital, where she also served as Chief of the Division of Women's Health. Her innovative model for sustainable improvements in women's health—spanning biomedical research, clinical care, health policy, global health, and interdisciplinary education—has become a national blueprint for advancing gender equity in medicine.

Prior to her appointment as the 14th President of Wellesley College, Dr. Johnson was the Grayce A. Young Family Professor of Medicine in the Field of Women's Health at Harvard Medical School and a Professor of Epidemiology at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Her scholarship has influenced the implementation of health care reform, shaped curricula for future health leaders, and advanced evidence-based approaches to address sex differences in disease prevention and treatment.

At Wellesley, Dr. Johnson has elevated the institution as a leader in STEM education for women while placing inclusive excellence and global engagement at the heart of its mission. She has led the development of a state-of-the-art Science Complex and launched transformative centers focused on civic leadership, democracy, and global citizenship.

Elected to the National Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Johnson's influence extends across clinical, academic, and policy spheres. She has served as Chair of the Boston Public Health Commission and as a member of the NIH Advisory Committee on Research on Women's Health, among many other national boards and commissions. Her acclaimed TED Talk, "His and Her Healthcare," has been viewed over one million times and was recognized as one of TED's Top 10 Talks by Women.

Dr. Johnson also brings her expertise to governance roles in the nonprofit and corporate sectors, currently serving on the boards of Rockefeller University, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and West Pharmaceutical Services.

In honoring Dr. Paula A. Johnson with the Cato T. Laurencin Lifetime Research Award, we celebrate a visionary whose work continues to redefine how we understand science, care, and equity. Her career exemplifies the values of research excellence, interdisciplinary impact, and generational leadership in pursuit of a healthier, more inclusive world.

ABOUT THE CATO T. LAURENCIN, M.D., PH.D. LIFETIME RESEARCH AWARD

Named for Cato T. Laurencin, M.D., Ph.D., Orthopedic Surgeon, Biomedical Engineer, National Academy of Medicine, and National Academy of Engineering Member.

HISTORY

Dr. Laurencin has dedicated his life to excellence in research, teaching, surgery, mentoring, and scientific leadership. He has been instrumental in advancing the field of orthopedic surgery and reducing health disparities. His exceptional contributions have inspired a new generation of researchers and healthcare professionals.

GENERAL CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD

Recognizes individuals with over 20 years of consistent contributions benefiting reducing health disparities through research and inquiry.

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS:

2024	Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D., President and CEO, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center	2017	Virginia Caine, M.D., M.P.H., Past President, APHA; Director and Chief Medical Officer, Marion County Public Health Department; Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) Board of Advisors; Associate Professor of Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine
2023	Neil Powe, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A., Chief of Medicine, University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Medicine Service, Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital	2016	James R. Gavin III, M.D., Ph.D., Clinical Professor of Medicine, Emory University and Indiana University; CEO & Chief Medical Officer of Healing Our Village, Inc.; National Program Director Emeritus, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program (AMFDP)
2022	Ezra Griffith, M.D., Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry and African American Studies, Yale University	2015	Roy Wilson, M.D., M.S., Chancellor Emeritus, University of Colorado Denver and Health Sciences Center; President Emeritus and Distinguished Professor of Ophthalmology, Wayne State University
2021	Richard Allen Williams, M.D., Past President, National Medical Association (NMA); Founder and President, Minority Health Institute; Founder, Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC)	2014	Alvin Poussaint, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School
2020	Mae C. Jemison, M.D., Former National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Astronaut; Principal, 100 Year Starship Project	2013	Beny J. Primm, M.D., Addiction Research Treatment Corporation (ARTC) Founder; Founding President, Urban Resource Institute
2019	Griffin P. Rodgers, M.D., MACP, Director, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)	2012	Kenneth Olden, Ph.D., Sc.D., L.H.D., Former Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
2018	Camara P. Jones, M.D., Ph.D., Past President, American Public Health Association (APHA); Senior Fellow, Satcher Health Leadership Institute, Morehouse School of Medicine; Senior Fellow, Cardiovascular Research Institute, Morehouse School of Medicine	2011	Jane Cooke Wright, M.D., Former Professor of Surgery, Head of the Cancer Chemotherapy Department, and Associate Dean at New York Medical College

2025 DISTINGUISHED COBB LECTURER



Alison J. Whelan, M.D.

Chief Academic Officer, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)

As the 2025 Cobb Lecturer, Dr. Alison J. Whelan brings her deep expertise in education, clinical care, and institutional change to examine how artificial intelligence, inclusion, and educational transformation intersect to shape the future of healthcare. Her work continues to inspire new generations of physicians, educators, and academic leaders to build more equitable, responsive, and effective systems of medical training and care.

We are proud to recognize Dr. Whelan's visionary leadership in academic medicine and her transformative contributions to medical education, clinical training, and workforce development. As Chief Academic Officer at the AAMC, Dr. Whelan leads national efforts to align the medical education continuum with the evolving needs of 21st-century healthcare.

A pioneering educator and practicing physician, Dr. Whelan's impact spans medical student instruction, graduate medical education, interprofessional learning, and continuing professional development. At AAMC, she oversees strategy and programming for medical school deans, faculty leaders, and trainees across the country, addressing issues ranging from accreditation and academic operations to learner wellness and equitable workforce preparation.

Before joining the AAMC in 2016, Dr. Whelan served in numerous educational leadership roles at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, including as Senior Associate Dean for Education, where she led institutional innovation across the full spectrum of

education from admissions through continuing medical education. She spearheaded the creation of the school's Practice of Medicine curriculum, standardized patient programs, and faculty development initiatives, and was instrumental in establishing the Farrell Learning and Teaching Center and a cross-institutional Center for Interprofessional Education.

A trained internist and clinical geneticist, Dr. Whelan co-founded and directed a hereditary cancer clinic and served as co-director of the Siteman Cancer Center Hereditary Cancer Research Core, while maintaining clinical and research responsibilities. Her leadership in genetics and education has been widely recognized, including through her longstanding roles on the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), where she currently serves on the governing board and has chaired several Step II committees.

Dr. Whelan received her bachelor's degree from Carleton College and earned her M.D. from Washington University School of Medicine, where she also completed her residency in internal medicine. A recipient of multiple teaching and service awards—including the Samuel R. Goldstein Leadership Award in Medical Student Education and the Emerson Electric Excellence in Teaching Award—she is recognized as a national thought leader committed to advancing learner-centered education, interdisciplinary collaboration, and innovation in academic medicine.

ABOUT THE DISTINGUISHED COBB LECTURER

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS:

2024	Cato T. Laurencin, M.D., Ph.D. University Professor CEO, The Cato T. Laurencin Institute for Regenerative Engineering University of Connecticut Editor-In-Chief, <i>Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities</i>	2015	Joan Y. Reede, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., M.B.A., Dean for Diversity and Community Partnership, Harvard Medical School
2023	Ruth J. Simmons, Ph.D., President Emerita of Prairie View A&M University, Brown University, and Smith College; Distinguished Presidential Fellow, Rice University; Adviser to the President of Harvard University on HBCU Initiatives	2014	Thomas A. LaVeist, Ph.D., Director of Hopkins Center for Health Disparities Solutions and William C. and Nancy F. Richardson Professor in Health Policy, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
2022	Valerie Montgomery Rice, M.D., President and CEO, Morehouse School of Medicine	2013	Harold P. Freeman, M.D., Founder, Harold P. Freeman Patient Navigation Institute
2021	Wayne A. I. Frederick, M.D., M.B.A., President, Howard University; Distinguished Charles R. Drew Professor of Surgery, Howard University College of Medicine	2012	Virginia Caine, M.D., M.P.H., Past President, APHA; Director and Chief Medical Officer, Marion County Public Health Department; Associate Professor of Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine
2020	Deborah Prothrow-Stith, M.D., Dean and Professor of Medicine, College of Medicine at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science	2011	LaSalle Leffall, Jr., M.D., First Distinguished Charles R. Drew Professor of Surgery, Howard University College of Medicine; Former President, American Cancer Society (ACS); Former President, Society of Surgical Oncology; Former President, Society of Surgical Chairs; Former Chief of General Surgery at the U.S. Army Hospital, Munich, Germany (1960–1961)
2019	Kimberly Gregory, M.D., M.P.H., Director, Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	2010	Robert S. Satcher, M.D., Ph.D., Former National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Astronaut; Assistant Professor, The Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University; Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
2018	Dara Richardson-Heron, M.D., Former Chief Engagement Officer - <i>All of Us</i> Research Program at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)	2009	Roderic I. Pettigrew, Ph.D., M.D., Director of National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering at NIH
2017	Edith P. Mitchell, M.D., MACP (London), Past President, National Medical Association (NMA); Enterprise Vice President for Cancer Disparities, Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health; Director of the Center to Eliminate Cancer Disparities, and Professor of Medicine and Medical Oncology at Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University; National Cancer Institute's Blue Ribbon Panel; National Institutes of Health Council of Councils; Appointed Member, President's Cancer Panel, 2019-2023	2008	Augustus A. White III, M.D., Ph.D., Founding President, J. Robert Gladden Orthopaedic Society; Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Ellen and Melvin Gordon Distinguished Professor of Medical Education, Director of the Culturally Competent Care Education Program, Former Advisory Dean of the Oliver Wendell Holmes Society, Harvard Medical School; Former Professor, Harvard/MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology; Former Orthopaedic Surgeon-in-Chief, Beth Israel Hospital
2016	James E. K. Hildreth, Ph.D., M.D., President & CEO, Meharry Medical College		

COBB INSTITUTE SIGNATURE PROGRAMS AT THE 2025 NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONVENTION

PRESENTED BY THE W. MONTAGUE COBB/NMA HEALTH INSTITUTE

2025 ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION (RWJF)/W. MONTAGUE COBB SYMPOSIUM

**Code, Context, and Care: AI at the Crossroads of
Healthcare, Research, and Workforce Development**

*Sunday, July 20, 2025 | 12:30–2:30 PM
Hilton Chicago – International Ballroom North - Level 2*

This inaugural symposium launches a national dialogue on advancing equity in AI-driven health research and care, bringing together leaders to explore responsible innovation, workforce development, and the policy landscape shaping ethical implementation.

2025 COBB SCHOLARS CONVENING

Navigating Research Success

*Sunday, July 20, 2025 | 2:45–4:00 PM
Hilton Chicago – Grand Tradition - Lower Level*

A Program Dedicated to Cobb Scholars, Myeloma Research Scholars, the NMA Postgraduate Section, and the Student National Medical Association.

This convening provides a valuable space for networking, knowledge exchange, and mentorship, reflecting the Institute's ongoing commitment to developing the next generation of leaders in biomedical research and medicine.

ABOUT THE PRESIDENT AND CEO AND CONVENER OF THE PROGRAMS

Randall C. Morgan Jr., M.D., M.B.A.
President and CEO, W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute

Dr. Randall C. Morgan Jr. is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon and leading voice in addressing racial health disparities through research, mentorship, and workforce development. Under his leadership, the Institute has expanded its influence through high-impact partnerships with the NIH, CDC, and other major institutions. He serves as co-chair of the Committee on Mentoring and Advising for the National Academies' Roundtable on Black Men and Black Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine. Dr. Morgan played a pivotal role in launching the *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, and has led multiple national initiatives to support underrepresented scholars in pursuing NIH funding and academic careers. He has also contributed to the NIH *All of Us* Research Program as a national engagement partner, promoting inclusive participation in biomedical research. A graduate of Grinnell College and Howard University College of Medicine, Dr. Morgan completed his orthopedic training at Northwestern University and later earned his MBA from the University of South Florida. He has held academic appointments at multiple institutions, and he has published widely on health policy, musculoskeletal disparities, and DEI in medicine. Dr. Morgan is also a past president of the National Medical Association and the J. Robert Gladden Orthopaedic Society. His lifelong commitment to justice, mentorship, and community-driven innovation continues to shape national conversations on equity in healthcare and medical education.



2025 ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION (RWJF)/W. MONTAGUE COBB SYMPOSIUM

CODE, CONTEXT, AND CARE: AI AT THE CROSSROADS OF HEALTHCARE, RESEARCH, AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

A PROGRAM OF THE W. MONTAGUE COBB/ NMA HEALTH INSTITUTE (COBB INSTITUTE)
FOR THE 2025 NMA CONVENTION AND SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY

Sunday, July 20, 2025 | 1:45–3:45 PM
Hilton Chicago, International Ballroom North - Level 2
Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credits: 2

Livestream Available: www.facebook.com/events/1231091354945294 or www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLCDvYJHDuY



2025 Cobb Lecturer
Alison Whelan, M.D.
Association of American
Medical Colleges (AAMC)



Moderator
Mallory Williams, M.D., M.P.H.
*Chair of Cobb Board of
Directors, Department Chair,
Cook County Trauma & Burn*



Featured Speaker
**Ronnie Sebro, M.D.,
Ph.D.**
*MD Anderson Cancer
Center, Houston*



**Marshall Chin, M.D.,
M.P.H.**
*University of Chicago
Medicine*



Gilles Gnacadja, Ph.D.
Amgen



**MaCalus Hogan, M.D.,
M.B.A.**
*University of Pittsburgh
Medical Center (UPMC)*



**Brenda Jamerson,
Pharm.D.**
iSimcha Health, LLC



**Melissa Simon, M.D.,
M.P.H.**
Northwestern Medicine



Hassan Tetteh, M.D., M.B.A.
*Uniformed Services
University of the Health
Sciences (USU)*

With Welcome and Opening Remarks from:



Virginia Caine, M.D., M.P.H.
President, National Medical Association



Randall Morgan, M.D., M.B.A.
President and CEO, The Cobb Institute

SPONSORED BY



OVERVIEW

This symposium marks the inaugural meeting of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)–W. Montague Cobb Institute collaboration, organized as part of a broader initiative of the Cato T. Laurencin Institute for Regenerative Engineering at the University of Connecticut. As artificial intelligence (AI) becomes increasingly integrated into health research and care, this convening launches a national dialogue on how AI intersects with inclusion, workforce development, and responsible innovation. Participants will explore how evolving political and funding environments, shifting language policies, and emerging federal guidance are influencing the development, application, and governance of AI in biomedical research. With a focus on both the promise and the risks of AI—particularly when built on limited or biased data—the program highlights the importance of transparency, institutional readiness, and ethical implementation to ensure that these technologies support equity and scientific advancement across healthcare systems.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After participating in this activity, learners will be able to:

- 1 Understand how language, policy, politics, and culture shape the research, communication, and implementation of AI in healthcare.
- 2 Explore the tensions, limitations, and potential of AI in clinical and research environments.
- 3 Identify the infrastructure, policies, and workforce readiness needed to ensure responsible and equitable AI adoption.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the National Medical Association (NMA) and the W. Montague Cobb/ NMA Health Institute. The NMA is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The NMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 2 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of participation in the activity. The NMA has been reviewed and approved as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Medical Education and Training (IACET), 8405 Greensboro Drive, Suite 800, McLean, VA 22102-5120. The NMA will award 2 hours of CEUs to participants who successfully complete the program.

DISCLOSURE

ACCME Standards for Commercial Support require that we collect commercial interest information from faculty for identifying conflicts of interest, and for resolving those conflicts. Accordingly, all persons in a position to affect the educational content of the activity must complete a full disclosure form prior to the activity. Additionally, we request copies of all speaker presentations (these aid in determining and resolving potential conflicts). Faculty disclosures, or lack thereof, must be made known to learners prior to the activity.

EVENT SCHEDULE

Arrival

AI Primer video prepared by Carrington Boyer, B.A., and Tiffany North-Reid, M.P.H.

1:45 PM Welcome And Opening Remarks

Virginia Caine, M.D., M.P.H., *President, National Medical Association (NMA)*

Randall Morgan, M.D., M.B.A., *President and Founding CEO, W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute*

1:50 PM An Overview of the State of AI in Healthcare

Ronnie Sebro, M.D., Ph.D., *Professor of Radiology, Epidemiology, and Imaging Physics, MD Anderson Cancer Center*

2:00 PM 2025 W. Montague Cobb Lecture: "Preparing Tomorrow's Health Workforce: The Role of AI in Education and Research"

Alison Whelan, M.D., *Chief Academic Officer, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)*

2:20 PM Panel Discussion: AI in Practice: Navigating Policy, Language, and Innovation in Health Research (60 minutes)

Moderator

Mallory Williams, M.D., M.P.H., *Chairman of the Cobb Board of Directors, Department Chair, Cook County Trauma & Burn.*

Panelists

Gilles Gnacadja, Ph.D., *Executive Director, Head of AI Product Design and Early Development, Amgen*

Marshall Chin, M.D., M.P.H., *Richard Parrillo Family Distinguished Service Professor of Healthcare Ethics in the Department of Medicine; Co-Director, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Advancing Health Equity: Leading Care, Payment, and Systems Transformation, University of Chicago*

MaCalus V. Hogan, M.D., M.B.A., *David Silver Professor and Chair, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery; Chief, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Orthopaedic Service Line; Chief, Division of Foot and Ankle Surgery; Senior Medical Director, UPMC Health Plan Orthopaedic and Musculoskeletal Care Services; Medical Director of Outcomes, UPMC Wolff Center for Quality, Safety and Innovation*

Brenda Jamerson, Pharm.D., *Founder, iSimcha Health, LLC*

Melissa A. Simon, M.D., M.P.H., *Vice Chair for Research, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology; Director, Institute for Public Health and Medicine (IPHAM) - Center for Health Equity Transformation; George H. Gardner, M.D., Professor of Clinical Gynecology, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine*

Hassan Tetteh, M.D., M.B.A., *Associate Professor of Surgery, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU)*

3:20 PM Panel Discussion / Audience Q&A

3:40 PM Closing Remarks

Virginia Caine, M.D., M.P.H., *President, National Medical Association*

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

2025 DISTINGUISHED COBB LECTURER

ALISON WHELAN, M.D.

Chief Academic Officer, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)

Alison J. Whelan, M.D., is a nationally recognized leader in academic medicine, currently serving as the Chief Academic Officer at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), where she directs initiatives to transform medical education and workforce preparation across the entire continuum—from pre-medical advising through continuing professional development. In this role, she oversees strategic priorities for medical school accreditation, student and faculty success, and education innovation that addresses the needs of a dynamic, equity-focused healthcare system. Dr. Whelan assumed this role in 2021 after serving as the AAMC's Chief Medical Education Officer since 2016. Prior to joining the AAMC, she spent over two decades at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, where she held multiple senior leadership roles, including course director, clerkship director, and the inaugural Senior Associate Dean for Education. She led educational innovation across the continuum, including admissions, curriculum reform, student affairs, interprofessional education, and continuing medical education. She directed accreditation processes for LCME®, ACGME, ACCME, and a new MPH program, and co-founded a Center for Interprofessional Education with the Goldfarb School of Nursing and the St. Louis College of Pharmacy. A practicing internist and clinical geneticist, Dr. Whelan founded the hereditary cancer clinic and co-directed the interdisciplinary Marfan syndrome clinic, as well as the Siteman Cancer Center Hereditary Cancer Research Core. She also served on the Siteman Cancer Center Executive Committee. Her research and teaching interests have focused on hereditary cancer syndromes, connective tissue disorders, and innovation in clinical education. She contributed nationally through service to the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), including as Chair of the Step 2 Committee and member of the NBME governing board. Dr. Whelan earned her bachelor's degree from Carleton College in 1981 and her medical degree from Washington University School of Medicine in 1986. She completed her residency and postgraduate training in internal medicine and clinical genetics at Barnes Hospital (now Barnes-Jewish Hospital). Her career exemplifies a steadfast commitment to innovation in education, equity in workforce development, and excellence in clinical and academic leadership.

FEATURED SPEAKER

RONNIE A. SEBRO, M.D., PH.D.

Professor of Radiology, Epidemiology, and Imaging Physics, MD Anderson Cancer Center

Ronnie A. Sebro, M.D., Ph.D., is a physician-scientist and radiologist with deep expertise in artificial intelligence, statistical genetics, and musculoskeletal imaging. He currently serves as Deputy Editor of Radiology: Artificial Intelligence and is a Senior Associate Consultant at the Mayo Clinic. Dr. Sebro holds both an M.D. and a Ph.D. in Biostatistics, with a clinical and research trajectory that spans the Stanford University School of Medicine, the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), and a fellowship in musculoskeletal imaging at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School. A practicing musculoskeletal radiologist and translational researcher, Dr. Sebro's lab focuses on bone and soft-tissue sarcomas—rare tumors characterized by histologic and imaging heterogeneity. He integrates imaging and genomic data using radiomics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning to identify novel biomarkers for disease prognosis and therapeutic response. His interdisciplinary work spans statistical genetics, functional imaging, and the development of AI evaluation metrics grounded in rigorous biostatistical theory. As an academic and innovator, Dr. Sebro is deeply committed to ensuring that technological advances in medicine are ethical, scientifically sound, and equitable. He brings a rare combination of expertise across clinical radiology, genomic research, and advanced statistical modeling, making him a leader at the intersection of precision medicine and artificial intelligence.

VIRGINIA CAINE, M.D., M.P.H.

President, National Medical Association (NMA)

Virginia A. Caine, M.D., is the Director and Chief Medical Officer of the Marion County Public Health Department in Indianapolis, Indiana, and an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Infectious Diseases Division at Indiana University School of Medicine, with adjunct faculty appointments at the IU Fairbanks School of Public Health. A nationally recognized public health leader, Dr. Caine currently serves as the 125th President of the National Medical Association (NMA) and is a former President of the American Public Health Association (APHA).

She has also served on numerous national committees, including the CDC Board of Scientific Counselors for the Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases, the CDC's MMWR Editorial Board, and the CDC/HRSA Advisory Committee on HIV, Viral Hepatitis, and STD Prevention and Treatment. She was recently appointed to the Indiana Governor's Public Health Commission and previously served on the National Biodefense Science Board, offering strategic guidance to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. A founding member of the Indiana Health Information Exchange, Dr. Caine also chairs the IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center Community Advisory Committee and the IU Clinical and Translational Science Institute's External Advisory Board. She has led innovative public health initiatives, including establishing Indianapolis's first HIV/AIDS healthcare delivery system that connected all major hospitals. Her career has been marked by deep commitment to health equity and community collaboration. Among numerous honors, she received the Sagamore of the Wabash Award—the highest recognition from the Governor of Indiana—and was named “August M. Watanabe Life Sciences Champion of the Year” by BioCrossroads, the first Black and first woman recipient. In 2020, the Indianapolis Business Journal included her among the 40 most influential people of the past 40 years. Dr. Caine earned her undergraduate degree from Gustavus Adolphus College and her medical degree from New York University School of Medicine, and she completed her residency and infectious disease fellowship at the University of Cincinnati.

MARSHALL CHIN, M.D., M.P.H.

Richard Parrillo Family Distinguished Service Professor of Healthcare Ethics in the Department of Medicine; Co-Director, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Advancing Health Equity: Leading Care, Payment, and Systems Transformation, University of Chicago

Marshall H. Chin, M.D., M.P.H., is the Richard Parrillo Family Distinguished Service Professor of Healthcare Ethics in the Department of Medicine at the University of Chicago, where he also serves as Associate Chief and Director of General Internal Medicine Research. A practicing general internist, Dr. Chin is nationally recognized for his leadership in advancing health equity and improving care for historically underserved populations. He directs the Chicago Center for Diabetes Translation Research and the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics and serves as co-director of the Summer Program in Outcomes Research Training (SPORT), where he mentors faculty,

fellows, and students in health services research. Dr. Chin has led numerous national initiatives to reduce disparities in care, including the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Finding Answers: Solving Disparities Through Payment and Delivery System Reform and the Merck Foundation's Bridging the Gap: Reducing Disparities in Diabetes Care. His work has informed the development of equitable care models in federally qualified health centers and community-based systems serving patients with chronic conditions like diabetes. He currently co-chairs the Health Equity Advisory Team for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Learning and Action Network and is a member of the CDC Community Preventive Services Task Force and the NIH National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities. Dr. Chin is a former president of the Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) and the recipient of SGIM's 2024 Robert J. Glaser Award, its highest honor for contributions to research, education, and mentorship. He is also a member of the National Academy of Medicine and a contributor to its paper series on structural racism and health. Known for his innovative use of improv, storytelling, and theater to train clinicians on equity and anti-racism, Dr. Chin integrates ethics and advocacy into his work at every level—from policy to the bedside. He earned his undergraduate degree from Harvard College, his M.D. from the University of California, San Francisco, and completed his residency and fellowship in general internal medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School.

GILLES GNACADJA, PH.D.

Executive Director and Head of AI Product Design and Early Development, Amgen

Gilles Gnacadja is Executive Director and Head of AI Product Design and Early Development at Amgen, where he leads efforts to integrate artificial intelligence and advanced modeling into the discovery and development of human therapeutics. With over two decades of cross-sector experience, Dr. Gnacadja brings expertise in data science, systems biology, genomics, and pharmacometrics. He is a strong advocate for principled, interpretable AI and is recognized for his commitment to developing models that are both scientifically rigorous and impactful in clinical contexts. Prior to Amgen, he held research and technical roles at Bell Labs and in software engineering, applying mathematical modeling to optical communications and large-scale transaction systems. He earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Georgia, where he focused on applying mathematical theory to complex systems.

MACALUS V. HOGAN, M.D., M.B.A.

David Silver Professor and Chair, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery; Chief, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Orthopaedic Service Line; Chief, Division of Foot and Ankle Surgery; Senior Medical Director, UPMC Health Plan Orthopaedic and Musculoskeletal Care Services; Medical Director of Outcomes, UPMC Wolff Center for Quality, Safety and Innovation

MaCalus V. Hogan, M.D., M.B.A., is the David Silver Professor and Chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), where he also serves as Chief of the Orthopaedic Surgery Service Line and Senior Medical Director of Outcomes and Registries at the Wolff Center for Quality, Safety, and Innovation. A nationally recognized orthopaedic surgeon and musculoskeletal researcher, Dr. Hogan is board-certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery and specializes in foot and ankle surgery, regenerative medicine, and performance optimization in athletes and dancers. He received his undergraduate degree in Biochemistry from Xavier University of Louisiana, his M.D. from Howard University College of Medicine, and completed his residency in orthopaedic surgery at the University of Virginia Health System, where he was an NIH T32 Research Fellow in Musculoskeletal Regenerative Engineering. He went on to complete a foot and ankle fellowship at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City, serving as a consultant to the New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and several professional and collegiate athletic teams. Dr. Hogan also earned an Executive MBA from the University of Pittsburgh Katz School of Business. At UPMC, Dr. Hogan directs the Foot and Ankle Injury Research (FAIR) group and co-directs the Musculoskeletal Growth and Regeneration Lab, with a research focus on tendon, ligament, and cartilage bioengineering. He holds secondary appointments in the Department of Bioengineering, the Clinical and Translational Science Institute, and the International Executive MBA Program at the Katz School of Business. A leader in health policy and quality of care delivery, Dr. Hogan co-chairs the UPMC Orthopaedic Bundling Advisory Board and serves on both the Orthopaedic Service Line Steering Committee and Executive Committee. He has authored over 200 manuscripts, book chapters, and presentations and has been honored with numerous awards, including the American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society's J.

Leonard Goldner Award and the American Orthopaedic Association's Emerging Leader on the Move Award. In 2017, he was selected as an American Orthopaedic Association North American Traveling Fellow, reflecting his national reputation for advancing orthopaedic science and health system innovation. Dr. Hogan also serves as a foot and ankle consultant to the athletic departments at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, Duquesne University, and Robert Morris University, and as Assistant Team Physician for Point Park University and the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre.

BRENDA JAMERSON, PHARM.D.

Founder, iSimcha Health, LLC

Brenda Jamerson, Pharm.D., is a clinical research pharmacist, educator, and health equity innovator committed to transforming how diverse populations access and engage with clinical research. She is the Founder of iSimcha Health, LLC, a health technology company that develops AI-powered, web-enabled platforms to translate complex medical and clinical trial information into accessible, lay-friendly formats. Her work focuses on increasing research literacy and expanding participation in clinical studies among older adults and racially and ethnically diverse communities. Dr. Jamerson currently serves as Adjunct Research Faculty in the School of Medicine and as Faculty Director for the Baldwin Scholars Program at Duke University, where she mentors emerging leaders in health and biomedical science. A first-generation college graduate, she earned her Bachelor of Pharmacy from St. Louis College of Pharmacy and her Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) from The Ohio State University. She has held leadership roles in academic and clinical research settings and is recognized for her innovative strategies to bridge the gap between clinical science and community engagement. Through her work with iSimcha, Dr. Jamerson is developing scalable tools to empower patients, strengthen informed consent, and increase the inclusion of underrepresented populations in clinical research—advancing equity and transparency in precision medicine and drug development.

RANDALL C. MORGAN JR., M.D., M.B.A.

Dr. Randall C. Morgan Jr. is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon and leading voice in addressing racial health disparities through research, mentorship, and workforce development. Under his leadership, the Institute has expanded its influence through high-impact partnerships with the NIH, CDC, and other major institutions. He serves

as co-chair of the Committee on Mentoring and Advising for the National Academies' Roundtable on Black Men and Black Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine. Dr. Morgan played a pivotal role in launching the *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, and has led multiple national initiatives to support underrepresented scholars in pursuing NIH funding and academic careers. He has also contributed to the NIH *All of Us* Research Program as a national engagement partner, promoting inclusive participation in biomedical research. A graduate of Grinnell College and Howard University College of Medicine, Dr. Morgan completed his orthopedic training at Northwestern University and later earned his MBA from the University of South Florida. He has held academic appointments at multiple institutions, and he has published widely on health policy, musculoskeletal disparities, and DEI in medicine. Dr. Morgan is also a past president of the National Medical Association and the J. Robert Gladden Orthopaedic Society. His lifelong commitment to justice, mentorship, and community-driven innovation continues to shape national conversations on equity in healthcare and medical education.

MELISSA A. SIMON, M.D., M.P.H.

Vice Chair for Research, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology; George H. Gardner, MD, Professor of Clinical Gynecology, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Melissa A. Simon, M.D., M.P.H., is the George H. Gardner Professor of Clinical Gynecology and Vice Chair of Clinical Research in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. A nationally recognized leader in women's health equity, she also serves as co-program leader for cancer control and survivorship at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Simon is the founding director of both the Center for Health Equity Transformation and the Chicago Cancer Health Equity Collaborative, and she is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and the Association of American Physicians. Her research integrates health services approaches with social epidemiologic frameworks, emphasizing community-driven interventions—such as patient navigation and community health workers—to eliminate disparities among low-income, medically underserved women across the lifespan. She has led national conversations on healthcare pipeline development and created the world's first free massive open online course focused on health careers, Career 911: Your Future Job in Medicine and Healthcare. Dr. Simon is also a former member of the U.S. Preventive Services

Task Force and currently serves on the NAM Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice and the Roundtable for the Promotion of Health Equity. Her commitment to mentorship spans high school students to junior faculty, and she has earned multiple accolades for her leadership and educational efforts, including the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Mentor of the Year Award. Raised in Detroit, Dr. Simon earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Chicago, her M.D. from Rush Medical College, her M.P.H. from the University of Illinois at Chicago, completed her residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital, and a fellowship in family planning at Northwestern University. Her work continues to shape health equity policy and practice across community, academic, and national platforms.

HASSAN TETTEH, MD, MBA

Associate Professor of Surgery, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU)

Hassan A. Tetteh, M.D., M.B.A., M.P.A., M.S., FACS, FAMIA, is a thoracic and transplant surgeon, retired U.S. Navy Captain, and Associate Professor of Surgery at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, with additional faculty appointments at Howard University College of Medicine. He currently serves as a thoracic surgeon at Inova Health and Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and is founder of the Specialized Thoracic Adapted Recovery (STAR) Team, focused on expanding heart and lung organ recovery to save lives. A nationally recognized leader in health innovation, Dr. Tetteh was named an Emerging Leader in Health and Medicine Scholar by the National Academy of Medicine and previously served as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow with the U.S. Congress and the Congressional Budget Office. He is the founder and principal of Tetteh Consulting Group and creator of The Art of Human Care® book series, with multiple best-selling titles including Gifts of the Heart, Star Patrol, and Success Strategies. Dr. Tetteh is board-certified in thoracic surgery, general surgery, clinical informatics, and healthcare management, and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, American College of Healthcare Executives, and American Medical Informatics Association. He earned his B.S. from SUNY Plattsburgh, M.D. from SUNY Downstate Medical Center, M.P.A. from Harvard Kennedy School, M.B.A. from Johns Hopkins Carey Business School, and M.S. in National Security Strategy (with a focus on

artificial intelligence) from the National War College. He completed his thoracic surgery fellowship at the University of Minnesota and advanced cardiac surgery fellowship at Harvard Medical School's Brigham and Women's Hospital. Widely recognized for his leadership and advocacy, Dr. Tetteh has received numerous honors including the Alley Sheridan Award from the Thoracic Surgery Foundation and designation as a TEDMED Front Line Scholar and TEDx speaker. He continues to champion innovative, human-centered approaches to healing and health system transformation, drawing on his unique experience across clinical care, military service, health policy, and narrative medicine.

MALLORY WILLIAMS, MD, MPH

Chairman, Board of Directors, W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute; Department Chair, Trauma & Burn, Cook County Health

Mallory Williams, M.D., M.P.H., is Chair of Trauma and Burn Surgery at Stroger Hospital and a nationally recognized leader in trauma surgery, critical care, and surgical education. Board-certified in both surgery and critical care, Dr. Williams brings over two decades of experience spanning clinical care, academic scholarship, and military service. A cum laude graduate of Morehouse College, he earned his medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine and completed his

general surgery residency at Wayne State University/Detroit Medical Center, where he served as Chief Administrative Resident. He also completed a surgical critical care fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital and holds a Master of Public Health. Dr. Williams has led multiple American College of Surgeons (ACS) Level I trauma centers through successful verification and contributed to two state trauma system consultations. A former Presidential Scholar at Harvard and a decorated U.S. Army Reserve Colonel with deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, he merges public service with academic rigor. He has published over 70 peer-reviewed articles and delivered more than 100 national and international invited lectures, and he co-edited the textbook Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Surgery: Practical Management of Dilemmas. His research interests focus on trauma systems, healthcare delivery in safety-net hospitals, and improving communication and team dynamics in high-acuity care settings. Dr. Williams is co-principal investigator of a Susan G. Komen grant on patient navigation and breast cancer outcomes in Louisiana and has received numerous awards for his research and teaching, including multiple Teacher of the Year honors. He is Vice Chair of the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, President of Reede Scholars, Inc., and an unwavering advocate for mentorship, workforce diversity, and equitable healthcare policy.

2025 ANNUAL CONVENING OF THE COBB SCHOLARS PROGRAM

NAVIGATING RESEARCH SUCCESS IN TODAY'S ENVIRONMENT

**A PROGRAM DEDICATED TO THE COBB SCHOLARS, MYELOMA RESEARCH SCHOLARS, NMA
POSTGRADUATE SECTION, AND THE STUDENT NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

Monday, July 21, 2025, 1:00-3:30 PM
Hilton Chicago, Grand Tradition - Lower Level
Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credits: 2



Imamu "Mu" Tomlinson, M.D., M.B.A.
*Chief Executive Officer, Vituity
President, Vituity Cares Foundation*



Joseph Mikhael, M.D., Ed.D.
*Professor, Clinical Genomics and Translational Genomics Research Institute, City of
Hope Cancer Center, Chief Medical Officer, International Myeloma Foundation*

SPONSORED BY



EVENT SCHEDULE

1:00–2:00 PM

Opening Session

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Winston Price, M.D., *Chair, Cobb Scholars Advisory Committee*
Chief Information Officer, The W. Montague Cobb Institute; Associate Professor of Pediatrics,
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) South Georgia

“Leading the Way in Healthcare Innovation During Troubled Times”

Imamu “Mu” Tomlinson, M.D., M.B.A., *Chief Executive Officer, Vituity; President, Vituity Cares Foundation*

Fireside Panel Discussion: Creative Tools & Effective Strategies Toward Resiliency in Research

Panelists:

- Imamu “Mu” Tomlinson, M.D., M.B.A.
- Stacie Fairley, Ph.D., *Associate Professor, PCOM South Georgia; Cobb Scholar*
- Saron Araya (Class of 2027, PCOM-SGA), *2024 IMF Scholar; Pre-Cobb Scholar*
- Antonio Henry (Class of 2026, PCOM-NGA), *Pre-Cobb Scholar*
- Miracle Rogers (Class of 2027, University of Pittsburgh), *SNMA President*
- Jessica Wilson, M.D., *Fellow, Allergy/Immunology, University Hospitals Cleveland; PCOM GA Alum; Cobb Scholar Applicant*

Audience Q&A and Closing Remarks

Winston Price, M.D.

2:00–3:30PM

Myeloma Research Scholars Forum

Introduction to the IMF/NMA/Cobb Institute Research Scholars Program

Randall C. Morgan Jr., M.D., M.B.A., *President & CEO, The W. Montague Cobb Institute*

“The Importance of Mentorship in Research Careers”

Joseph Mikhael, M.D., Ed.D., *Professor, Clinical Genomics and Translational Genomics Research*
Institute, City of Hope Cancer Center; Chief Medical Officer, International Myeloma Foundation

Abstract Presentations

- Roshana Brown, OMS-III, *Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine*
- Caidon Iwuagwu, MS2, *Medical College of Wisconsin*

Mentor-Mentee Conversations

- Mentor: Louis S. Williams, M.D., *Associate Staff, Hematology-Oncology, Taussig Cancer Center, Cleveland Clinic*
Mentee: Kenyot’a Russell, OMS-II, *PCOM South Georgia*
- Mentor: Sikander Ailawadhi, M.D., *Professor of Medicine, Hematology/Oncology, Mayo Clinic Florida*
Mentee: Zania Johnson, MS2, *Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine, Quinnipiac University*

Summary and Next Steps

Randall C. Morgan Jr., M.D., M.B.A.

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

CHAIR OF THE COBB SCHOLARS ADVISORY COMMITTEE WINSTON PRICE, M.D.

Winston Price, M.D., FACPE is Chair of the Cobb Scholars Advisory Committee, where he leads national efforts to mentor and support the next generation of underrepresented researchers and clinicians. A distinguished pediatrician, educator, and advocate for health equity, Dr. Price has dedicated his career to advancing diversity in medicine and eliminating health disparities. He also serves as Chief Technology & Information Officer for the W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute, where he directs technology integration to bolster research, education, and community engagement. Dr. Price was the 105th President of the National Medical Association (NMA) and currently holds faculty appointments as Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) South Georgia Campus and Assistant Professor at the Medical College of Georgia. He is also President and Chair of the National African American Drug Policy Coalition and serves on national advisory boards including the Childhood Influenza Immunization Coalition and the Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health. A graduate of Weill Cornell Medical College, Dr. Price completed his pediatric residency at The New York Hospital–Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Based in Southwest Georgia, he continues to provide community-based care while championing policy reforms and mentoring future leaders. In recognition of his impact, Dr. Price was named the National Medical Association's Practitioner of the Year in 2021.

IMAMU “MU” TOMLINSON, M.D., M.B.A.

Imamu “Mu” Tomlinson, M.D., M.B.A. is the Chief Executive Officer of Vituity and President of the Vituity Cares Foundation. A board-certified emergency physician and national leader in health equity, Dr. Tomlinson is recognized for his innovative efforts to extend care beyond hospital walls into underserved communities. Before becoming CEO in 2017, he led the development of Vituity's first multi-hospital, multi-specialty integrated networks and served as the organization's President. He also held the role of Chief of Staff for the Adventist Health Central Valley Network, where he continues to practice. Dr. Tomlinson earned his medical degree from the University of Cincinnati, completed residency

at Miami Valley Hospital in Ohio, and holds an MBA in healthcare administration from California Coast University. Through his leadership at Vituity Cares, he advances programs that address clinician representation and systemic barriers to health. Dr. Tomlinson is a leading voice in creating cultures of brilliance—workplace environments that empower diverse teams to deliver equitable, patient-centered care.

JOSEPH MIKHAEL, M.D., M.ED.

Joseph Mikhael, MD, MEd, FRCPC, FACP, FASCO is a globally recognized hematologist, educator, and clinical researcher specializing in plasma cell disorders. He serves as Chief Medical Officer of the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF) and Professor in the Clinical Genomics and Therapeutics Division at the Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen), affiliated with City of Hope Cancer Center. He is also Director of Myeloma Research at the HonorHealth Research Institute, where he oversees early-phase clinical trials. Previously, Dr. Mikhael held leadership roles at Mayo Clinic Arizona, including Professor at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education, and Deputy Director for Education at the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center. A dedicated educator, he has received multiple honors including the Mayo Resident and Fellow Association Educator of the Year and was named among the Top 100 Doctors in the U.S. Dr. Mikhael received his medical degree from the University of Ottawa and completed his hematology training and a myeloma fellowship at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto, where he also earned a Master's in Education from the University of Toronto. He has authored over 150 peer-reviewed publications and led major clinical guideline efforts, including ASCO's multiple myeloma recommendations. Deeply committed to health equity, Dr. Mikhael leads the IMF's M-Power initiative to address disparities in myeloma outcomes among African Americans and dedicates significant time to expanding access to care in low-resource settings globally. He is an active member of the International Myeloma Working Group and serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

SARON ARAYA

Saron Araya is a Class of 2027 student at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine South Georgia (PCOM-SGA) and a 2024 IMF/NMA/Cobb Scholar.

As a Pre-Cobb Scholar, she brings a strong commitment to advancing health equity and translational research in underserved communities.

SIKANDER AILAWADHI, M.D.

Sikander Ailawadhi, M.D. serves as a mentor in the IMF/NMA/Cobb Institute Research Scholars Program, a Professor of Medicine and an expert hematologist at the Mayo Clinic, with over two decades of experience diagnosing, treating, and managing hematologic malignancies and plasma cell disorders. He specializes in multiple myeloma, Waldenström macroglobulinemia, and chronic leukemias, including chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Dr. Ailawadhi's clinical and research expertise spans clinical drug development, CAR-T cell therapy, and investigating biological variability in plasma cell dyscrasias. A committed leader in advancing equitable cancer care, Dr. Ailawadhi actively studies healthcare disparities and cancer outcomes among ethnic minorities. His work aims to dismantle systemic inequities and improve access to innovative treatments for underserved populations. At Mayo Clinic, he has played a central role in care team design, models of care, and research program development for hematologic malignancies. Dr. Ailawadhi earned his M.B.B.S. from the University College of Medical Sciences and Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital at the University of Delhi. He completed his residency in internal medicine and fellowship in medical oncology at the State University of New York at Buffalo's Roswell Park Cancer Institute. His distinguished career reflects a deep commitment to patient-centered innovation and health equity in cancer treatment.

ROSHANA BROWN, OMS-III

Roshana Brown, OMS-III is a third-year medical student at Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine. Her scholarly work focuses on cancer disparities and community-engaged research.

STACIE FAIRLEY, PH.D.

Stacie Fairley, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM), where she also serves as Director of Interprofessional Education (IPE). In this role, Dr. Fairley fosters collaboration across healthcare disciplines by facilitating dynamic, interactive learning experiences for medical students, with a focus on teamwork, cultural awareness, and current public health challenges such as the opioid crisis. Through her

leadership, PCOM students engage in cross-disciplinary dialogue designed to develop culturally competent and socially responsive future clinicians. Dr. Fairley's research spans both biomedical and community-engaged domains. Her current projects explore how colleges of osteopathic medicine can contribute to community-based opioid crisis responses, the disproportionate impact of the crisis on Black/African American populations, and the influence of social determinants of health in rural settings. With a scientific background in nanoscience, her previous research has also focused on intracellular trafficking of nanoparticles. Dr. Fairley earned both her Bachelor of Science and Ph.D. from Alabama State University and completed postdoctoral training at MINATEC, a renowned European center for nanotechnology research. A dedicated mentor and advocate for health equity, Dr. Fairley is also active in local and national philanthropic initiatives and brings a holistic approach to her work—bridging science, education, and community health.

ANTONIO HENRY

Antonio Henry is a Class of 2026 student at PCOM Georgia (NGA) and a Pre-Cobb Scholar. He is committed to research that addresses structural barriers to care and brings a future-oriented perspective on medical education and service.

CAIDON IWUAGWU

Caidon Iwuagwu is a second-year medical student at the Medical College of Wisconsin. His research interests include hematologic malignancies and cancer disparities.

ZANIA JOHNSON

Zania Johnson is a second-year medical student at the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University. She is a mentee in the IMF/NMA/Cobb Institute Scholars Program and is actively engaged in health equity research and mentorship initiatives.

MIRACLE ROGERS

Miracle Rogers is a medical student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and currently serves as the National President-Elect of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA). A Miami native, she holds a Master's degree in Bioengineering and a Bachelor's degree in Health and Exercise Science from Syracuse University. While at Syracuse, she was recognized as a Bill and Melinda Gates Millennium Scholar, Ronald E.

McNair Scholar, and Nth Dimensions Scholar. Miracle is pursuing a career in orthopedic surgery with a focus on addressing health disparities in musculoskeletal care, and she is deeply committed to advancing equity in medicine through leadership and service.

KENYOT'A RUSSELL, OMS-II

Kenyt' a Russell, OMS-II is a second-year osteopathic medical student at PCOM South Georgia. She is a mentee in the IMF/Cobb Institute's Myeloma Scholars Program, focusing on mentorship, research engagement, and clinical leadership in underserved populations.

JESSICA WILSON, M.D., M.P.H.

Jessica Wilson, M.D., M.P.H. is a dual-trained physician in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics and is currently completing a fellowship in Allergy and Immunology at University Hospitals in Cleveland. A graduate of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Georgia Campus, Dr. Wilson completed her residency at LSU Health Shreveport and holds a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from Georgia State University. Her clinical and research interests focus on asthma disparities in Black communities and advancing health equity through community-based research, patient-centered care, and structural reform. In addition to her clinical work, Dr.

Wilson is active in medical education, health policy, and public health advocacy. She brings a strong commitment to evidence-informed practice and equity, contributing her insights across academic, clinical, and community-based settings.

LOUIS S. WILLIAMS, M.D.

Louis S. Williams, M.D. serves as a mentor for the IMF/NMA/Cobb Institute Research Scholars Program, where he provides guidance and support to future leaders in hematology and oncology. He is an Associate Staff physician in Hematology and Oncology at the Taussig Cancer Center at Cleveland Clinic, where he specializes in the treatment of blood cancers and related disorders. Dr. Williams completed his fellowship in Hematology and Medical Oncology at New York University in 2021, following a residency in Internal Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic. He holds a Doctor of Medicine degree from Albany Medical College and a Master's degree from Yale University. His undergraduate studies in Chemistry were completed at Dartmouth College. Dr. Williams brings a strong academic foundation, clinical expertise, and a passion for mentorship to his work, helping to shape the next generation of physician-scientists committed to advancing equitable cancer care.

2024 SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Since completing its 12th year of publication, the *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities (JREHD)* continues to be a dynamic catalyst for scholarship, dialogue, and action aimed at dismantling health inequities. In 2024, the journal built upon its mission by releasing six issues encompassing more than 340 peer-reviewed articles, reflecting the vibrancy, depth, and evolving focus areas within the field.

EXPANDING THE BOUNDARIES OF RESEARCH

The 2024 portfolio stands out for its sheer breadth and diversity. Approximately 85% of this year's publications were rigorous original research articles from scholars worldwide, accompanied by 18 systematic reviews and 4 meta-analyses synthesizing insights across numerous domains. This robust output demonstrates *JREHD's* ongoing commitment to amplifying voices and perspectives that address persistent gaps in the scientific literature.

PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS

JREHD's 2024 issues offered comprehensive coverage of conditions and themes shaping community health, policy, and clinical interventions. Key subject areas included:

- **Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes/Obesity:** These chronic conditions remained dominant themes, with articles addressing the intersectionality of race, ethnicity, environment, and access to preventive care.
- **Cancer and Precision Medicine:** Cancer research—spanning prevention, early detection, and innovative therapies—was a close second, shining a light on disparities across the disease continuum. Discussions around access to genomics and personalized treatment options were especially prominent.
- **Mental Health:** A surge in research focused on culturally tailored interventions, mental health stigma, and the role of social support networks.
- **Infectious Diseases:** The lingering impact of COVID-19 and other infectious threats continued to receive critical analysis, particularly studies examining exposure risk, vaccine access, and outcomes.

NOTABLE STUDIES AND BREAKTHROUGHS

- Kaidi et al. conducted a landmark randomized controlled trial uncovering the potential for racial bias in scheduling elective joint surgeries, sparking conversations on hospital systems reform and implicit bias in clinical decision-making.
- Lee et al. leveraged machine learning in combination with genomic and transcriptomic analyses to bring new insights into racial disparities in prostate cancer incidence and outcomes, highlighting the imperative for tailored research methodologies.
- Hong et al. presented a cross-sectional analysis of perceptions and utilization patterns of genetic testing for cancer risk, advancing the discourse on barriers to precision medicine and measures to bolster access.

THEMES OF INNOVATION AND IMPACT

This year's body of work reflects persistent challenges in prevention, diagnosis, and treatment but also underscores notable advancements in research strategy. *JREHD* continued to:

- Elevate community-engaged research, participatory models, and the integration of social and behavioral variables into analytical frameworks.
- Highlight emerging tools in digital health, artificial intelligence, and data science that offer both promise and caution for advancing health equity.
- Foster dialogue among clinicians, patient advocates, policymakers, and researchers to translate findings into practice.

LOOKING FORWARD

With a surge in both submissions and readership, *JREHD's* expanding influence is evident in its ability to convene diverse stakeholders and set agendas for future inquiry. The journal remains not only a repository of scientific evidence but also a springboard for innovation and accountability.

As *JREHD* embarks on its 13th year, it stands as a vital forum where research informs real-world change—shaping clinical practice and guiding policy across communities.

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2024, the Cobb Institute reached full capacity on its Board of Directors, now composed of 17 distinguished members, new appointees each bringing deep expertise and commitment to advancing health equity.

The Institute also launched a strategic partnership with the International Medical Exchange (IME) to explore AI-driven solutions for improving healthcare outcomes in Africa and the U.S.

At the 2025 Student National Medical Association (SNMA) and Annual Medical Education Conference (AMEC), Cobb leaders delivered keynote remarks and initiated a formal agreement to expand support for medical student engagement and mentorship.

The Institute continued to amplify trusted health information through its monthly webinar series in

collaboration with BlackDoctor.org—recordings remain available at www.thecobbinstitute.org. In partnership with the CDC-NMA Cooperative Agreement, the Cobb team contributed digital resources, advisories, CME programming, and outreach materials focused on adult flu and COVID-19 vaccination.

Over the past year, the Institute also expanded its role in national initiatives. Through the Yale-led Equitable Breakthroughs in Medicine Development (EQBMED) grant, Cobb surveyed early-career researchers and developed training modules. The Institute also contributed to NMA Project IMPACT 2.0 by supporting community health fairs, educational content, symposium planning, annual report, while providing leadership on the Steering Committee.



2025 INTERN HIGHLIGHT: CARRINGTON BOYER



Carrington Boyer currently serves as a Development and Data Intern at the W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute, supporting grantwriting and strategic initiatives at the intersection of health equity and biomedical research. She is a recent graduate of Howard University, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Bioethics, graduating Magna Cum Laude. Carrington previously trained at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics through the Genomics and Society Mentorship Program, where her research focused on artificial intelligence, informed consent, and genetic research ethics. She has been actively engaged in volunteer and service-learning opportunities throughout her academic journey. During her time with Cobb, she contributed to several key projects, including the development of an AI primer for physicians.

ADDITIONAL CONVENINGS PRESENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE W. MONTAGUE COBB/NMA HEALTH INSTITUTE

NMA PROJECT IMPACT 2.0 SYMPOSIUM

Transforming Clinical Trials Toward Health Equity

*Monday, July 21, 2025 | 8:00–11:00 AM
Hilton Chicago, Williford A – Level 3*

A Collaboration between the National Medical Association and the W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute

JANE COOKE WRIGHT, M.D. ONCOLOGY SYMPOSIUM & POSTER WALK

Precision Medicine: Using Innovation to Move Cancer Care Forward

*Monday, July 21, 2025 | 3:45–5:15 PM
Hilton Chicago, Salons A3 & 4 – Lower Level*

A Collaboration between the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health, the NMA Oncology Section, the NMA Internal Medicine Section, the W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute, and the International Myeloma Foundation

ABOUT THE PRESIDENT AND CEO AND CONVENER OF THE PROGRAMS

Doris Browne, M.D., M.P.H.

President and CEO, Browne and Associates LLC

Chair, Oncology Subsection, Internal Medicine Section – NMA

118th President, National Medical Association (NMA)

Dr. Browne is President/CEO, Browne and Associates, LLC, a health consulting company that addresses national and global health inequities, a medical oncologist, and the 118th President of the National Medical Association. As President of the NMA, she focused on a Collaborative Approach to Health Equity entitled “The Urgency of Now: Creating a Culture for Health Equity. She tirelessly champions causes that significantly contribute to improving the health status of vulnerable populations. She achieved national and international recognition as an expert educator and speaker and has been either featured or quoted in many news articles, Podcasts, and Op-Eds in addition to publishing scientific articles, book chapter and textbook. Her public health background includes health education programs on cancer, women’s health, climate health and environmental justice, sickle cell disease, HIV/AIDS, and radiation casualties, including participating in an international disaster preparedness and humanitarian assistance program for 17 West African Nations. She is passionate about achieving health equity through increased participation of underrepresented populations in clinical trials research. She is a retired Colonel from the U. S. Army, Medical Corps and retired from National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute where she managed the breast cancer portfolio. Dr. Browne is a graduate of Tougaloo College (BS), UCLA (MPH), and Georgetown University (M.D.) and completed an internship, residency, and fellowship at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Hematology-Oncology. She is a member of numerous professional organizations, Trinity Episcopal Church and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She is the recipient of plentiful awards including the NIH Merit Award and Top Blacks in Healthcare Award.



NMA PROJECT IMPACT 2.0 SYMPOSIUM

TRANSFORMING CLINICAL TRIALS TOWARDS HEALTH EQUITY

**NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION IN COLLABORATION
WITH THE W. MONTAGUE COBB/NMA HEALTH INSTITUTE**

Monday, July 21, 2025, 8:00 | 11:00 AM
Hilton Chicago, Williford A - Level 3
Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credits: 3

OVERVIEW

The 2025 NMA Project IMPACT (Increase Minority Participation and Awareness of Clinical Trials) 2.0 addresses key challenges in clinical trials and advancing health equity. Given growing awareness of disparities in health and disproportionate disease burden across populations and communities, this session will highlight innovative strategies, tools, and approaches designed to promote diversity and inclusion in clinical trials. Through expert-led discussions, keynote addresses, and interactive presentations, attendees will gain actionable insights into improving diverse participation, leveraging predictive tools for recruitment and retention, and exploring the evolving role of precision medicine and artificial intelligence (AI) in creating more inclusive research environments. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with thought leaders from industry, academia, and advocacy organizations who are committed to transforming clinical trials and advancing health equity.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After participating in this activity, learners will be able to:

1. Identify Barriers to Diversity in Clinical Trials: Understand the systemic, cultural, and logistical barriers that hinder the inclusion of diverse populations in clinical trials, and explore effective strategies to overcome these challenges.
2. Examine Strategies for Increasing Participation: Learn actionable approaches and best practices to enhance the recruitment and retention of underrepresented groups in clinical trials, including outreach, trust-building, and partnership models.
3. Understand the Role of Predictive Tools in Recruitment and Retention: Gain insights into how predictive tools, including AI and precision medicine, can optimize clinical trial recruitment, reduce attrition, and promote more personalized, effective trial designs.

4. Evaluate the Impact of Health Equity on Clinical Research: Analyze how advancing health equity in clinical trials contributes to better scientific outcomes, improved public health policies, and broader access to emerging treatments.
5. Explore Innovations in Trial Design and Technology: Discover emerging technologies and innovative trial designs that promote inclusivity, reduce biases, and improve the representation of diverse populations in clinical research.

This program will provide attendees with a comprehensive understanding of the essential steps needed to transform clinical trials and to help ensure that future research and development prioritizes health equity.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the National Medical Association (NMA) and the W. Montague Cobb/ NMA Health Institute. The NMA is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The NMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 3 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*TM. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of participation in the activity. The NMA has been reviewed and approved as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Medical Education and Training (IACET), 8405 Greensboro Drive, Suite 800, McLean, VA 22102-5120. The NMA will award 3 hours of CEUs to participants who successfully complete the program.

DISCLOSURE

ACCME Standards for Commercial Support require that we collect commercial interest information from faculty

for identifying conflicts of interest, and for resolving those conflicts. Accordingly, all persons in a position to affect the educational content of the activity must complete a full disclosure form prior to the activity. Additionally, we

request copies of all speaker presentations (these aid in determining and resolving potential conflicts). Faculty disclosures, or lack thereof, must be made known to learners prior to the activity.

EVENT SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Coffee & Refreshments

8:10 AM Welcome and Introduction

Doris Browne, M.D., M.P.H., *President and CEO, Browne and Associates, LLC*

8:15 AM Roundtable Discussion: Strategies and Actions to Achieve Diversity in Clinical Trials

Moderator

Jonca Bull-Humphries, M.D., *Vice President, PPD Consulting*

Panelists

Neha Shah Londoño, *Clinical Trial Diversity & Community Engagement Lead, Pfizer*

DeChane Dorsey, Esq., *Executive Director, AdvaMed*

Luther Clark, M.D., *Executive Director, Patient Innovation and Engagement, Value & Implementation, Merck Research Labs*

9:05 AM Audience Engagement

9:20 AM Keynote Address and Q&A

Lisa Lewis, M.P.H., *Director, FasterCures, Milken Institute Health*

9:50 AM Panel Discussion: Predictive Tools Usability in Clinical Trial Recruitment and Attrition – Precision Medicine, AI, and Informed Decision Tools

Moderator

Thelma Hurd, M.D., M.P.H., *Thondapu Family Endowed Chair in Medical Education, Professor, Department of Public Health, University of California - Merced; Adjunct Professor, Community and Family Medicine, Meharry Medical College*

Panelists

Robert A. Winn, M.D., *Director and Lipman Chair in Oncology, VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center; Senior Associate Dean for Cancer Innovation and Professor of Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine, VCU School of Medicine*

Owen Garrick, M.D., M.B.A., *Dean of Clinical Trials, Mayo Clinic*

Tonja Wynn Hampton, M.D., *Executive Director/Distinguished Scientist, Global Regulatory Affairs, Merck*

10:40 AM Audience Engagement

10:55 AM Closing Remarks

Randall Morgan, M.D., M.B.A., *President and CEO, The Cobb Institute*

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

DORIS BROWNE, M.D., M.P.H.

Dr. Browne is President/CEO, Browne and Associates, LLC, a health consulting company that addresses national and global health inequities, a medical oncologist, and the 118th President of the National Medical Association. As President of the NMA, she focused on a Collaborative Approach to Health Equity entitled “The Urgency of Now: Creating a Culture for Health Equity. She tirelessly champions causes that significantly contribute to improving the health status of vulnerable populations. She achieved national and international recognition as an expert educator and speaker and has been either featured or quoted in many news articles, Podcasts, and Op-Eds in addition to publishing scientific articles, book chapter and textbook. Her public health background includes health education programs on cancer, women’s health, climate health and environmental justice, sickle cell disease, HIV/AIDS, and radiation casualties, including participating in an international disaster preparedness and humanitarian assistance program for 17 West African Nations. She is passionate about achieving health equity through increased participation of underrepresented populations in clinical trials research. She is a retired Colonel from the U. S. Army, Medical Corps and retired from National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute where she managed the breast cancer portfolio. Dr. Browne is a graduate of Tougaloo College (BS), UCLA (MPH), and Georgetown University (M.D.) and completed an internship, residency, and fellowship at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Hematology-Oncology. She is a member of numerous professional organizations, Trinity Episcopal Church and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She is the recipient of plentiful awards including the NIH Merit Award and Top Blacks in Healthcare Award.



JONCA BULL-HUMPHRIES, M.D.

Jonca Bull-Humphries, M.D., currently serving as Vice President at PPD Consulting, brings over three decades of experience spanning clinical care, public policy, industry leadership, and regulatory oversight. At PPD, she provides strategic guidance in clinical and regulatory affairs across therapeutic areas, ensuring the ethical and inclusive design



and implementation of clinical trials for innovative medical products. From 2012 to 2017, she served as Assistant Commissioner at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), where she led initiatives to improve the inclusion of underrepresented populations in clinical research. Earlier in her FDA career (1994–2006), she held various senior leadership roles advancing programs related to drug regulation and public health policy. Beyond her federal service, she has held executive roles in regulatory affairs at Novartis Pharmaceuticals and Genentech, shaping industry approaches to equitable and patient-centered trials. In her tenure at PPD (2017–present), Dr. Bull has led regulatory consulting efforts and served as therapeutic area director for ophthalmology. She is widely recognized as a subject matter expert in advancing clinical trial diversity, bioethics in research, and integrating the patient voice into clinical development. Her work centers on the clinical relevance and integrity of data used to guide treatment decisions, particularly in historically excluded populations. Dr. Bull is also a dedicated advocate for community health. She serves on the board of CareFirst Blue Cross/Blue Shield and sits on the Research, Education, and Innovation Committee at Children’s National Medical Center. She has been a featured speaker and mentor in programs promoting women in STEM, equity in biomedical research, and regulatory science careers for underrepresented groups. Above all, Dr. Bull is committed to fostering a more just and inclusive research enterprise—one that upholds patient dignity and builds public trust. She earned her B.A. from Princeton University and her medical degree from Duke University School of Medicine. She completed residencies in both general medicine and ophthalmology at George Washington University Hospital and is board certified by, and a Fellow of, the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

LUTHER CLARK, M.D.

Luther Clark, M.D., FACC, FACP serves as Executive Director, Patient Innovation & Engagement, Value & Implementation, at Merck. In this role, he is responsible for (1) collaborating with key internal and external stakeholders to increase the voice of patients, directly and indirectly, in decision-making; (2) supporting representative clinical trial recruitment and retention; and (3) representing Merck externally, expanding bi-



directional scientific exchange and connectivity with key patient and professional leaders and organizations. Prior to joining Merck, Dr. Clark was Chief of the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center (SUNY Downstate) and founding Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded Brooklyn Health Disparities Research Center. Dr. Clark earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard College and his Medical degree from Harvard Medical School. He is a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology (FACC) and the American College of Physicians (FACP). He has authored more than 100 publications and edited (as well as being principal contributor) the textbook *Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes* (McGraw-Hill). Dr. Clark has received numerous awards and honors, including the Harvard University Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Medicine.

DECHANE DORSEY, ESQ.

DeChane Dorsey, Esq. is the Executive Director of AdvaMed Accel, a division within the Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed).

AdvaMed Accel represents small and mid-sized companies and works to address concerns specific to this group of companies

that comprise more than 70% of AdvaMed's overall membership. She also leads AdvaMed's health equity and women's health workstreams. Prior to assuming her current role Ms. Dorsey was a Vice President in the Payment and Health Care Delivery Department at AdvaMed where her responsibilities included policy development and analysis of regulatory issues affecting the medical technology industry, including the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS), reimbursement for Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs), advanced wound healing and tissue regeneration, coding, and physician payment issues. Prior to joining AdvaMed's staff in June 2006, Ms. Dorsey was the Director of Health Policy for the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) where she managed issues affecting coverage and reimbursement for ophthalmology procedures. Before joining the AAO, Ms. Dorsey was a Senior Counsel with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Counsel to the Inspector General, where she worked as a litigator on a variety of fraud and abuse issues including enforcement of exclusion authorities, the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor



Act (EMTALA) statute, civil monetary penalties, and compliance monitoring. She holds a B.A. in Political Science from Syracuse University and a J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center.

OWEN GARRICK, M.D., M.B.A.

Owen Garrick, M.D., M.B.A.

is the Dean of Clinical Trials

at Mayo Clinic, where he

leads a bold transformation of

the institution's clinical trials

infrastructure and strategy.

Appointed in 2023, Dr. Garrick

is charged with expanding access

to clinical research, advancing

digital capabilities, and accelerating the scale and impact

of remote and decentralized trials. His leadership reflects

a deep commitment to ensuring that the promise of

clinical trials is accessible to more patients across diverse

communities.



Prior to joining Mayo Clinic, Dr. Garrick served as

Chief Medical Officer for Clinical Trial Services at

CVS Health, where he oversaw medical strategy and

innovation across Trial Delivery, Recruitment, and Real-

World Evidence platforms. Under his direction, CVS

significantly advanced its decentralized trial capabilities

and strengthened its partnerships with life sciences

companies and health systems. Dr. Garrick's distinguished

career spans over three decades and includes senior

leadership roles at globally respected institutions across

the healthcare, pharmaceutical, finance, and insurance

sectors. He has served in executive and strategic roles at

McKesson, Novartis, Merck, and MetLife, and began

his career at Goldman Sachs, where he developed a

strong foundation in healthcare investment and systems

strategy. Dr. Garrick brings extensive expertise in drug

development, ethics, regulatory science, and patient

engagement. He is widely regarded for his efforts

to embed equity and transparency into the research

enterprise, and has published and spoken widely on the

importance of inclusion in biomedical innovation. Dr.

Garrick holds an A.B. in Psychology from Princeton

University, an M.D. from Yale School of Medicine, and

an M.B.A. from the Wharton School at the University of

Pennsylvania. Through his leadership at Mayo Clinic and

beyond, Dr. Garrick continues to shape a future where

cutting-edge clinical research is more representative,

ethical, and accessible.

TONJA HAMPTON, M.D.

Tonja Hampton, M.D. is a board-certified pediatrician and accomplished medical communications expert, currently serving as Executive Director/Distinguished Scientist, Global Regulatory Affairs at Merck & Co. In parallel, she has contributed extensively to public health education as a Medical Editor at WebMD, where she has been responsible for editing clinical and consumer health content, curating accurate and engaging visuals, and providing subject-matter expertise in pediatrics, women's health, and allergy/asthma. Dr. Hampton began her academic journey at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH), where she was selected as both a John Motley Morehead Scholar and a National Achievement Scholar. During her undergraduate years, she was actively involved in student government, performed in university choral groups, and served as a teaching assistant in chemistry. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry. She continued her medical training at the UNC School of Medicine, where she was engaged with the Student National Medical Association and participated in research on barriers to cervical cancer screening among low-income Black women. She went on to complete her pediatric residency at Emory University. Following residency, Dr. Hampton practiced general pediatrics in Georgia, first with South Dekalb Pediatrics in Decatur and later with Children's Medicine in Lawrenceville. Over the course of her clinical career, she developed a particular interest in preventive care and parental education. In her transition to medical communications and regulatory leadership, Dr. Hampton has remained committed to health equity, patient-centered care, and responsible science communication. Her career bridges clinical care, digital health education, and regulatory strategy at the global level. She is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics and is deeply committed to family and community.



She currently serves as a Professor of Public Health and holds the Thondapu Family Endowed Chair in Medical Education at the University of California, Merced. Prior to her current appointment, she served as the inaugural Director of Medical Education at the University of California, Merced. She is an Adjunct Professor of Family and Community Medicine at Meharry Medical College. Dr. Hurd brings a deeply integrative approach to health equity, combining clinical expertise, public health research, and extensive community engagement. Her work spans over a decade of research on social determinants of health and their impact on cancer care, with a specific focus on sustainable, community-based interventions in rural and frontier Hispanic/Latino and African American populations. Her methodological strengths lie in community-based participatory research (CBPR), and she has successfully led multi-site screening and education programs targeting breast, colorectal, and cervical cancer in Western New York and Texas. Her research interests focus on understanding both personal and systemic factors contributing to oncologic and clinical trial disparities, including cultural beliefs, access barriers, and institutional policies. Dr. Hurd is especially known for developing innovative and sustainable models for cancer prevention and control that are embedded within communities, ensuring long-term impact and relevance. A national thought leader in medical education and health equity, Dr. Hurd is committed to training the next generation of physicians to recognize and act upon the structural and social factors that drive disparities. She has received recognition for her leadership in academic medicine and her contributions to advancing equitable care delivery.

LISA LEWIS, M.P.H.

Lisa Lewis is an accomplished leader in biomedical research and clinical development with over twenty-five years of experience spanning the academic, healthcare, and pharmaceutical sectors.

Currently serving as Director at FasterCures, a center of the Milken Institute focused on accelerating medical solutions, Lisa brings deep expertise in health equity, clinical trial diversity, and translational science. Lisa began her career as a Research Technologist in the Hematopoiesis Research Laboratory at Mount Sinai Hospital/Icahn School of Medicine. Early on, she managed pediatric hematology/oncology cooperative group clinical trials and served as Research Manager at Queens Medical Associates Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders (Northwell Health),



THELMA HURD, M.D., M.P.H.

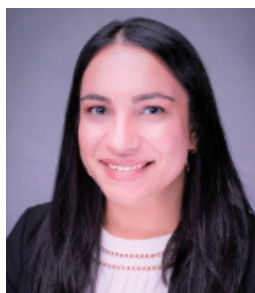
Thelma Hurd, M.D., M.P.H., FACS, FSSO is a surgical oncologist and public health researcher with a distinguished career dedicated to addressing health disparities and improving cancer outcomes in historically marginalized communities.



where she worked directly with patients and families. She has also held a research role at The New York Academy of Medicine in the Center for Adherence Support Evaluation (CASE). Lisa has held diverse leadership and consulting positions at top biopharmaceutical companies, including Johnson & Johnson, Novartis Oncology, Celgene, Bristol-Myers Squibb, AstraZeneca, G1 Therapeutics, Flatiron Health, and Immunocore. Most recently, as Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Clinical Trials (DEICT) – Oncology at Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine, Lisa led the DEICT Oncology team. She co-led the internal Oncology Diversity Steering Committee and a 280+ member Community of Practice, influencing policy and practice across regulatory affairs, medical affairs, and patient engagement. Lisa has played a key role in advancing equity in oncology clinical research through high-profile collaborations such as the Stand Up to Cancer (SU2C) Diversity in Early Development Clinical Trials Program and the American Cancer Society's patient navigation initiative. These programs were highlighted in the White House Cancer Moonshot Progress Update and serve as benchmarks for inclusive research design and execution. Deeply committed to education and mentorship, Lisa volunteers with numerous initiatives supporting aspiring professionals in life sciences and STEM. She has served as a Career Advisor in a LinkedIn-CUNY pilot program, an application reviewer for Pharrell Williams' Black Ambition Prize, and a speaker at the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center CURE program. She is active in national professional organizations including the American Society of Bioethics & Humanities, Women in Bio, The Cru, and the National Council of Negro Women. Lisa holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology/Pre-Medicine from Stony Brook University, a Master of Public Health with a concentration in Health Informatics from New York Medical College, and is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Bioethics at the Harvard Medical School Center for Bioethics. She has completed executive education at NYU and Wharton and earned certificates from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School's Media & Medicine program.

NEHA SHAH LONDOÑO

Neha Shah Londoño is the Clinical Trial Diversity & Community Engagement Lead at Pfizer, where she leads global strategies to improve equitable representation in clinical research. With over two decades of experience across the pharmaceutical,



biotech, and CRO sectors, Neha brings deep expertise in clinical operations, patient engagement, and strategic implementation of inclusive trial practices. At Pfizer, Neha spearheads initiatives that integrate community engagement, culturally responsive design, and cross-sector partnerships to build research frameworks that reflect the diversity of global populations. Her work focuses on addressing structural and historical barriers to trial participation by advancing policies and practices that promote trust, accessibility, and long-term impact within underserved communities. Throughout her career, Neha has been a driving force behind efforts to align innovation with equity. She collaborates with advocacy groups, research institutions, and clinical sites to ensure that diverse voices are included at every stage of the research process—from protocol development to trial execution and post-trial engagement.

RANDALL C. MORGAN JR., M.D., M.B.A.

Dr. Randall C. Morgan Jr. is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon and leading voice in addressing racial health disparities through research, mentorship, and workforce development. Under his leadership, the Institute has expanded its influence through high-impact partnerships with the NIH, CDC, and other major institutions. He serves as co-chair of the Committee on Mentoring and Advising for the National Academies' Roundtable on Black Men and Black Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine. Dr. Morgan played a pivotal role in launching the *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, and has led multiple national initiatives to support underrepresented scholars in pursuing NIH funding and academic careers. He has also contributed to the NIH *All of Us* Research Program as a national engagement partner, promoting inclusive participation in biomedical research. A graduate of Grinnell College and Howard University College of Medicine, Dr. Morgan completed his orthopedic training at Northwestern University and later earned his MBA from the University of South Florida. He has held academic appointments at multiple institutions, and he has published widely on health policy, musculoskeletal disparities, and DEI in medicine. Dr. Morgan is also a past president of the National Medical Association and the J. Robert Gladden Orthopaedic Society. His lifelong commitment to justice, mentorship, and community-driven innovation continues to shape national conversations on equity in healthcare and medical education.



ROBERT A. WINN, M.D.

As director of VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center, Robert A. Winn, M.D., oversees a cancer center designated by the National Cancer Institute that provides advanced cancer care, conducts groundbreaking research to discover new therapies for cancer, offers high-quality education and training, and engages with the community to make advancements in cancer treatment and prevention equally available to all. He is leading the nation in establishing a 21st-century model of equity for cancer science and care, in which the community is informing and partnering with Massey on its research to best address the cancer burden and disparities of those the cancer center serves, with a local focus but global impact.



As a physician-scientist, his basic and translational research is focused on the development of novel in vitro and in vivo models to study the translational aspects of the role that various signaling pathways (e.g., WNTs, PRMT, KSRP) play in lung cancer. Winn has also brought the importance of the concept of ZNA (i.e., one's zip code or neighborhood of association) and its impact on DNA and biological outcomes to the forefront in basic and translational research. His findings in this area have driven several important studies and has truly advanced the science of health equity. With over 100 peer-reviewed journal publications, Winn is the principal investigator on several significant multi-institutional grants, including a Stand Up To Cancer health equity team science award, a National Cancer Institute-funded Planning SPORE focused on Lung Cancer Health Equity, and an institutional partnership award promoting cancer disparities research and career development collaboration between Massey and Virginia State University. He is the co-founder of the nationally recognized Facts & Faith Fridays conversation series,

fostering dialogue between science, community leaders, and faith leaders to address medical mistrust within the African American community. Notable guests in this series have included Jill Biden, Ed.D., Anthony Fauci, M.D., Ned Sharpless, M.D., and Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D. He has been recognized for his exemplary community engagement efforts and is the namesake of the Robert A. Winn Excellence in Clinical Trials Award Program, a \$114 million national training and education program committed to increasing diversity in clinical trials and training the new generation of community-oriented clinical researchers. A national leader in health equity, Winn is the first elected minority (African American) president of the Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI) in its 65-year history; the chair of the National Cancer Policy Forum of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; an elected fellow of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Academy; and a member of the national Board of Directors for the American Cancer Society and LUNgevity Foundation. Winn also serves as the chair for the AACR Cancer Health Disparities Report for 2024, which was presented to Congress in May 2024. Winn is the recipient of the National Cancer Institute Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities CURE Program Lifetime Achievement Award; the AACR-Minorities in Cancer Research Jane Cooke Wright Lectureship; the AACI Cancer Health Equity Award; the LUNgevity Foundation Face of Hope Award; the Prevent Cancer Foundation Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Laurel Award for Increasing Health Equity; and the ASCO Allen Lichter Visionary Leader Award. Winn holds a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame and an M.D. from the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor. He completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago and a fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver.

JANE COOKE WRIGHT, M.D., ONCOLOGY SYMPOSIUM & POSTER WALK

PRECISION MEDICINE: USING INNOVATION TO MOVE CANCER CARE FORWARD

**A COLLABORATION BETWEEN SIDNEY KIMMEL CANCER CENTER AT JEFFERSON HEALTH, THE NMA
ONCOLOGY SECTION, NMA INTERNAL MEDICINE SECTION, THE W. MONTAGUE COBB/NMA HEALTH
INSTITUTE, AND THE INTERNATIONAL MYELOMA FOUNDATION**

Monday, July 21, 2025 | 3:45–5:15 PM
Hilton Chicago, Salons A3 & 4 - Lower Level
Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credits: 1

OVERVIEW

This year's Annual Jane Cooke Wright, MD Cancer Disparities Symposium will discuss the latest recommendations in screening, early detection and treatment in four key disease categories, as well as strategies to address barriers to reduce cancer disparities.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After participating in this activity, learners will be able to:

1. Discuss current advancements in cancer screening methodologies and their relevance for addressing disparities in cancer incidence and mortality rates.
2. Describe the predominant cancers affecting target communities, examining key outcomes and underlying factors contributing to disparities in diagnosis, treatment, and outcomes.
3. Develop tailored implementation strategies for reducing cancer disparities, prioritizing current guidelines and research from the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN), the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), and other leading scientific organizations.
4. Explore updated therapeutic interventions for cancer treatment, including emerging modalities and precision medicine approaches, and discuss their

implications for improving patient outcomes and reducing disparities.

5. Convey the significance of preparing the next generation of cancer providers, emphasizing the importance of education, training, and diversity in the healthcare workforce to address disparities and ensure equitable access to quality cancer care.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the National Medical Association (NMA) and the W. Montague Cobb/ NMA Health Institute. The NMA is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The NMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of participation in the activity. The NMA has been reviewed and approved as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Medical Education and Training (IACET), 8405 Greensboro Drive, Suite 800, McLean, VA 22102-5120. The NMA will award 1 hours of CEUs to participants who successfully complete the program.

DISCLOSURE

ACCME Standards for Commercial Support require that we collect commercial interest information from faculty for identifying conflicts of interest, and for resolving those conflicts. Accordingly, all persons in a position to affect

the educational content of the activity must complete a full disclosure form prior to the activity. Additionally, we request copies of all speaker presentations (these aid in determining and resolving potential conflicts). Faculty disclosures, or lack thereof, must be made known to learners prior to the activity.

EVENT SCHEDULE

3:45 PM Opening

Randall Morgan M.D., M.B.A., *President & CEO W. Montague Cobb Health Institute (The Cobb Institute)*

3:50 PM Tribute To Edith P. Mitchell

Peter O'Dwyer, M.D., *Group Co-Chair, ECOG-ACRIN Cancer Research Group*

Marie L. Borum, M.D., Ed.D., M.P.H. – *Editor in Chief, Journal of the National Medical Association*

4:00 Roundtable Discussion: Innovations in Cancer Care

Moderator

Doris Browne, M.D., M.P.H., *President and CEO, Browne and Associates LLC; Chair, Oncology Subsection, Internal Medicine Section – NMA, 118th President, NMA*

Prostate Cancer

Keith D. Crawford, M.D., Ph.D., *Director, Clinical Trials and Education, Prostate Health Education Network*

Colorectal Cancer

Marie L. Borum, M.D., Ed.D., *Professor of Medicine and Professor of Prevention and Community Health, Director, Division of Gastroenterology and Liver Diseases, George Washington University; Chair, NMA Gastroenterology Section*

Cervical Cancer

Leeya F. Pinder, M.D., M.P.H., *Associate Professor, Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Director, Center for Global Cancer Control, Vice Chair, Research, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine*

HIV-Related Malignancies

Paul G. Rubinstein, M.D., *Associate Professor of Medicine - Division of Hematology/Oncology, Department of Medicine, University of Illinois at Chicago*

4:50 PM Panel Discussion / Audience Q&A

5:05 PM Update In Multiple Myeloma

Joseph Mikhael, M.D., M.Ed., *Chief Medical Officer, International Myeloma Foundation; Professor, Clinical Genomics and Therapeutics, Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen), City of Hope Cancer Center; Consultant Hematologist and Director, Myeloma Research, Phase 1 Program, HonorHealth Research Institute; Research Professor, School of Medicine and Advanced Medical Engineering, Arizona State University*

5:25 PM Closing Remarks

Doris Browne, M.D., M.P.H.

5:55 PM Myeloma Research Poster Walk And Reception

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

JOSEPH MIKHAEL, M.D., M.ED.

Chief Medical Officer, International Myeloma Foundation; Professor, Clinical Genomics and Therapeutics, Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen), City of Hope Cancer Center; Consultant Hematologist and Director, Myeloma Research, Phase 1 Program, HonorHealth Research Institute; Research Professor, School of Medicine and Advanced Medical Engineering, Arizona State University



Joseph Mikhael, M.D., M.Ed. is the Chief Medical Officer of the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF) and a Professor at the Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen), affiliated with the City of Hope Cancer Center. He conducts phase 1 clinical trials as Director of Myeloma Research at the HonorHealth Research Institute. With a distinguished career, Dr. Mikhael recently led ASCO guidelines for multiple myeloma and served as a hematologist at Mayo Clinic Arizona. Recognized for his educational contributions, he was named one of the Top 100 Doctors in the United States and received induction into the Mayo Clinic Resident and Fellow Association Hall of Fame. Trained in Ottawa, Canada, Dr. Mikhael specializes in plasma cell disorders, particularly multiple myeloma, and leads numerous clinical trials in this field. He has authored over 150 peer-reviewed articles and is a member of the IMF's International Myeloma Working Group and the editorial board of the Journal of Clinical Oncology. Dr. Mikhael leads the IMF's M-Power Project, focused on improving myeloma care for African Americans, and advocates for increased access to myeloma therapies globally.

KEITH D. CRAWFORD, M.D., PH.D.

Director, Clinical Trials and Education, Prostate Health Education Network (PHEN)

Dr. Keith Crawford is an accomplished physician-scientist and Director of Clinical Trials and Patient Education at the Prostate Health Education Network (PHEN), where

he leads efforts to enhance patient engagement and expand access to culturally responsive clinical research. He brings over 20 years of experience in the life sciences, with deep expertise in genomics, immunology, infectious disease, and regenerative medicine. Dr. Crawford earned his medical degree from the University of



Texas Medical School in Houston and his PhD in cell biology and immunology from Harvard University. As a Harold Amos Fellow with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, he conducted postdoctoral research in immunology and received Department of Defense funding to develop antidotes and detection tools for chemical and biological threats. He later served as Director of the Center for Molecular Orthopedics at Brigham and Women's Hospital, where he co-led research that identified novel early-lineage adult stem cells and helped develop a preclinical spinal fusion therapeutic.

MARIE L. BORUM, M.D., M.P.H., ED.D.

Professor of Medicine and Prevention & Community Health

Director, Division of Gastroenterology and Liver Diseases, George Washington University Chair, NMA

Gastroenterology Section



Marie L. Borum, M.D., Ed.D., M.P.H., MACP, FACG, AGAF, FRCP currently serves as the Director of the Division of Gastroenterology and Liver Diseases and a professor at The George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Sciences. Dr. Borum also oversees the Gastroenterology fellowship program and holds an associate professorship in public health at The George Washington University School of Public Health & Health Services. With an extensive scholarly portfolio, Dr. Borum has authored over 100 abstracts, articles, and chapters, and contributed to four textbooks, including *Women's Health Issues Part I and II* and *Gastroenterology Clinics in Geriatric Medicine*. She is highly regarded as a reviewer for numerous peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Borum's research interests encompass diverse areas such as physician

decision-making, women's health, health disparities, acid-peptic disorders, inflammatory bowel disease, irritable bowel syndrome, colon cancer, and liver disease. Dr. Borum is esteemed as a fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Gastroenterology, and she actively participates in professional organizations such as the American Gastroenterology Association, American Participant Biographies, Public Health Association, American Medical Women's Association, and the National Medical Association, where she now serves as the Editor in Chief of the *Journal of the National Medical Association*. Dr. Borum's academic journey includes an undergraduate degree from Princeton University, a medical degree from UMDNJ-Rutgers Medical School (Robert Wood Johnson Medical School), and master's and doctorate degrees from The George Washington University. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine and subspecialty training in gastroenterology at The George Washington University.

LEEYA F. PINDER, M.D., M.P.H.

**Associate Professor of
Gynecologic Oncology
Director, Center for Global
Cancer Control
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine**



Dr. Leeya F. Pinder is a distinguished physician-scientist and an emerging leader serving as Associate Professor of Gynecologic Oncology, Vice Chair of Research in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Associate Director of Population Science and Cancer Control for the University of Cincinnati Cancer Center. Her career is driven by a profound commitment to improving women's health and advancing health equity in resource-limited settings, both globally and domestically. Shaped by her extensive experiences in Kenya, Zambia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, her work focuses on developing and implementing accessible, effective, and culturally considerate solutions to the challenges of women's cancers. Dr. Pinder is focused on building sustainable healthcare systems, from creating innovative screening and treatment programs to strengthening the infrastructure for gynecologic cancer care in Africa. Dr. Pinder's influential research has been published in leading journals such as

AIDS, Nature Medicine and The Lancet Oncology and is supported by a robust portfolio of funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Her research has advanced cervical cancer prevention through significant studies on single-dose HPV vaccination, thermal ablation, and innovative screening methods like HPV self-collection. She spearheads this work as a Principal Investigator on major NCI-funded grants, including the CASCADE Clinical Trials Network and the "Last Mile Initiative" SHIP trial. This work is complemented by her leadership on national and global committees, including the World Health Organization's Guideline Development Group and the American Cancer Society's National Roundtable on Cervical Cancer. Her dedication has been recognized with numerous honors and awards. Dr. Pinder earned her M.D. from the Medical University of South Carolina, an M.P.H. from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and completed fellowships in Global Health at Massachusetts General Hospital and the University of North Carolina and Gynecologic Oncology at the University of Washington.

PAUL G. RUBINSTEIN, M.D.

**Associate Professor,
Hematology/Oncology,
University of Illinois at
Chicago**



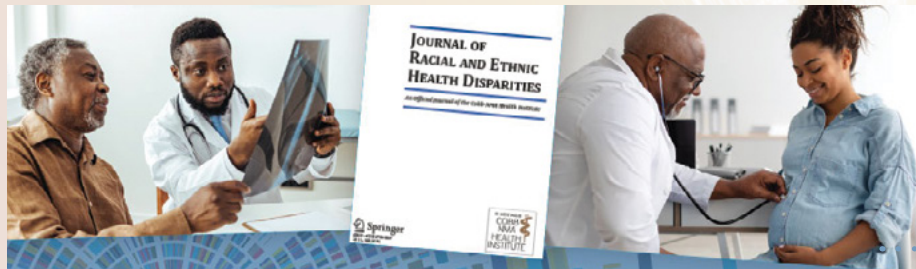
Dr. Paul Rubinstein is a physician-scientist specializing in hematologic malignancies, with particular expertise in cancers affecting persons living with HIV/AIDS. He serves as Associate Professor in the Division of Hematology and Oncology at the University of Illinois College of Medicine and provides clinical care at UI Health. Dr. Rubinstein's research focuses on the biology, treatment, and epidemiology of HIV-associated hematologic malignancies, including Kaposi sarcoma and lymphomas. He is an active member of the AIDS Malignancy Consortium and has led multicenter clinical trials through the National Cancer Institute and the Big Ten Cancer Research Consortium. He also conducts clinical research in non-HIV-associated hematologic cancers, striving to develop novel therapies and improve patient outcomes.

THE W. MONTAGUE COBB/NMA HEALTH INSTITUTE

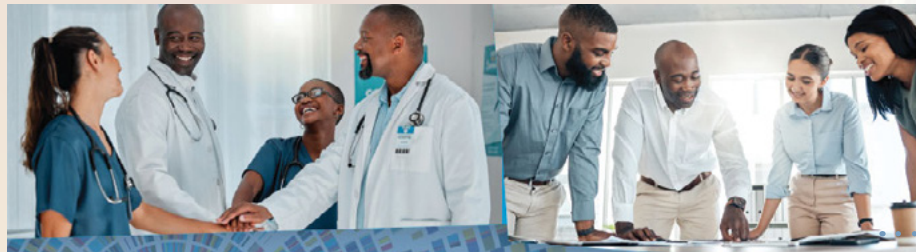
The Mission of The Institute is to conduct rigorous research and policy analysis, and engage in dynamic collaborative partnership for the reduction of persistent racial and ethnic disparities in health and racism in medicine.



ADVANCING CAREERS IN SCIENCE AND BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH



ADDRESSING RACIAL AND ETHNIC HEALTH DISPARITIES ACROSS THE LIFESPAN



FACILITATING RESEARCH NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION



ENGAGING COMMUNITIES AS PARTNERS IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AND CLINICAL TRIALS

The Cobb Institute,
a 501(c)(3) in Washington,
DC founded in 2004, engages
in innovative research and
knowledge dissemination
toward eliminating racial
and ethnic health disparities.

In addition to hosting the
*Journal of Racial and Ethnic
Health Disparities*, the

Institute continues to cultivate
a trusted and proven network
of diverse stakeholders.



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