

#StayWell 2022 Teen Vaccine QI Collaborative Expert Faculty



E. Cason Benton, MD, FAAP
Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Alabama at Birmingham,
ACHIA Director
Medical Director Alabama Care Plan

E. Cason Benton, MD, FAAP serves as the Director of ACHIA. Dr. Benton is Professor of Pediatrics at UAB in Academic General Pediatrics where she works with residents in the Primary Care Clinic. Dr. Benton currently serves on the AAP Maintenance of Certification Review Panel and the Leadership Committee for the National Improvement Partnership Network. She was the 2018 American Board of Pediatrics Paul E. Miles Fellow in Quality Improvement and 2019 recipient of the Marsha Raulerson Alabama Chapter AAP Advocacy award.



Tamera Coyne-Beasley, MD, MPH, Professor, Derroll M. Dawkins, M.D. Endowed Chair in Adolescent Medicine, Vice Chair for Community Engagement, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Dr. Tamera Coyne-Beasley is the Derroll Dawkins Endowed Chair in Adolescent Medicine, Division Director for Adolescent Medicine, Vice Chair of Pediatrics for Community Engagement, and Professor of Pediatrics and Internal Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and Children's of Alabama. Her areas of expertise and training include adolescent medicine, preventive medicine, health services research, medical management, epidemiology and public health. Her research, academic, community engagement, and policy and program development focus on adolescent health and well-being, sexual and reproductive health, risk behaviors and resiliency, global health, immunizations, health disparities and equity. Dr. Coyne-Beasley received her undergraduate degree at Brown University and completed medical school and residency in Med-Peds at Duke University. She completed a Robert Wood Johnson

Clinical Scholars Program, Fellowship in Preventive Medicine, Masters in Public Health Epidemiology and Medical Management program and at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Kenan Flagler Business School.

Tamera has served in numerous leadership positions in several organizations and committees. She was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) as a voting member and appointed to the chair of the Adult Immunization workgroup. She continues to contribute toward the review of scientific immunization evidence and the development of ACIP vaccine recommendations as a member of multiple workgroups. She is also on the Board of Directors of the National Foundation of Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Coyne-Beasley is a Past-President of the Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine (SAHM). She has also been an active member of the American Pediatric Society (APS) and serves on the Committee of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. She was elected as a Council member of the APS in 2021 and is a member of the Steering Committee of ACHIA.



David Kimberlin, MD, FAAP, Professor of Pediatrics, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Dr. David Kimberlin holds the Sergio Stagno Endowed Chair in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where he is Vice Chair for Clinical and Translational Research and Co-Director of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases. Dr. Kimberlin is Editor of the 2021 American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) *Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases (Red Book)*. He also was Editor of the 2018 and 2015 editions, and Associate Editor for the 2009 and 2012 editions. Since 2007, Dr. Kimberlin has served as the AAP Red Book liaison to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Through both the ACIP and the AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases, Dr. Kimberlin has been involved throughout 2020 and 2021 in major decisions nationally on allocation of the COVID-19 vaccines as they become available. This includes the assessment of the safety and efficacy of the vaccines in populations studied to date, and the development of the phased rollout of the vaccine to the American public to reduce transmission, morbidity, mortality of COVID-19 disease; to help minimize disruption to society and the economy, including maintaining healthcare capacity; and to ensure equity in vaccine allocation and distribution.

Dr. Kimberlin also is the Principal Investigator for the Collaborative Antiviral Study Group (CASG), now known as the Congenital and Perinatal Infections Consortium (CPIC). Funded continuously by NIH/NIAID/DMID since the early 1970s, the CASG/CPIC is a network of pediatric academic medical centers that evaluates antiviral therapeutics in rare diseases with a large unmet medical need, including neonatal herpes simplex virus (HSV) infections, congenital cytomegalovirus (CMV) disease, congenital Zika syndrome, neonatal and infantile influenza infection, and neonatal enteroviral sepsis syndrome. Dr. Kimberlin is a Past-President of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (PIDS). In 2016 he received the Ronald McDonald House Charities 2016 Medical Award of Excellence. He has received numerous education awards.



Gregory Zimet, PhD, FSAHM, Professor of Pediatrics & Clinical Psychology, Co-Director, IUPUI Center for HPV Research, Division of Adolescent Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Indiana University

Dr. Zimet is Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry in the Division of Adolescent Medicine, Department of Pediatrics at Indiana University School of Medicine. In addition, he is the founder and Co-Director of the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) Center for HPV Research. He received his PhD in clinical psychology from Duke University in 1986 and completed an internship and post-doc at University Hospitals of Cleveland.

Dr. Zimet started investigating attitudes about vaccines for adolescents in the mid-1990s. Much of his research has involved the study of vaccine acceptance and refusal, with a primary focus over the past 20 years on HPV vaccine. Dr. Zimet's research has encompassed behavioral, social, and policy-based determinants of HPV vaccination. His studies have focused on adolescents, adults, parents, and health care providers and include evaluations of vaccine communication intervention strategies.

Dr. Zimet's adolescent vaccination research has involved collaborations with investigators across the United States, Canada, the U.K., Australia, the Netherlands, and Malaysia.



Marietta Vazquez Professor of Pediatrics (General Pediatrics); Pediatric Global Health Track Director, Yale School of Medicine

Dr. Marietta Vázquez is a Pediatric Infectious Diseases specialist at the Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Vázquez graduated *Cum Laude* from Yale University in 1990. She attended the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine from and returned to Yale and completed Pediatric Residency & Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Diseases, also at Yale. She

is a Professor of Pediatrics at the Yale University School of Medicine, she is the Associate Dean of Medical Student Diversity at YSOM and Inaugural Vice Chair of the Diversity Equity and Inclusion in the Dept of Pediatrics and Director of the Yale-Children's Hospital Hispanic Clinic.

Dr. Vázquez's national and international research focuses on the clinical epidemiology of infectious diseases in children and on vaccines licensed for use in children and in adults. Her studies have had direct impact on clinical practice and vaccine policy, as data from her studies have led in part to the recommendation for a 2nd dose of varicella vaccine and by evaluating and discovering novel ways of protecting infants. She studied maternal vaccination-- influenza vaccine given to pregnant women to reduce hospitalization due to influenza in their infants was the first US study to show that giving vaccine to pregnant women protects their infants and help to overcome barriers to vaccination—potentially impacting motivations, perceptions and attitudes of pregnant women and of their medical providers towards vaccination during pregnancy.

Dr Vázquez was the first Latina to be appointed by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to be a voting member of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Dr Vazquez has authored many scientific papers and has been an active spokesperson for the CDC in both Spanish and English media campaigns and is an advocate for immigrant health rights.



LaCrecia Thomas, RN, MSN, CPNP – AC/PC, Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis Center Coordinator and Nurse Practitioner CQI Practice Coach

LaCrecia Thomas, RN, MSN, CPNP-AC/PC is a quality improvement specialist with the Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Learning Network and the Alabama Child Health Improvement Alliance. She has been a QI coach since 2006 within the U.S. and Chilean CF community and pediatric practices in Alabama. She also has 28 years of experience as nurse practitioner in CF care. She served as the pediatric CF program coordinator at the Children's of Alabama/ University of Alabama for 14 years.



Caitlin Purdy, RN-BSN
QI Coach Mentor
USA Health Physicians Group
Dept. Of Pediatrics

Caitlin started her career after graduating from North Florida College as a Licensed Practical Nurse in 2007. After working in the nursing home environment for several years she decided to pursue her dream of being a pediatric nurse. She completed an Associate's degree in Nursing in 2014 followed by Bachelors of Science in Nursing from Georgia Southern University in 2016. She worked in a local hospital as a floor nurse, telemetry nurse, and eventually advancing to charge nurse. In 2019 she relocated to Mobile, AL and joined the USA Health Physician's group. She hired in the Department of Pediatrics as Clinical Nurse III, Supervisor of Pediatrics Faculty Clinic and remains in this role today. "This is was a big change going from the hospital to the clinic world" Says Caitlin "but I am always up for a challenge".

Caitlin is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and is Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certified. She is a wife and mommy to a two-year-old little boy. In her free time Caitlin enjoys reading or running but mostly just spending time with her family. Since joining USA Health Caitlin says she has been blessed with great mentors who have helped her grow not just as nurse and leader but also as a person. She has plans to go back to school to earn a Master's Degree in Clinical Nurse Leadership this coming year, and owes the confidence to do so to her husband and most of all her family at USA Health.

Linda Champion, MPA
Project Manager- ACHIA