



HPV Vaccination: Progress and Challenges

Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 8:30 – noon

The Pond House Cafe in the Elizabeth Park Conservancy

1555 Asylum Ave,
West Hartford, CT 06117, CT

Agenda

- 8:45 Welcome. **Dr. Jody Terranova**, Deputy Commissioner, CT DPH
- 9:00 Keynote: HPV: A Global to Local Perspective. **Mitchell Clark, MD, FRCSC**, Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Yale University School of Medicine
- 9:35 State of HPV Vaccination Efforts in Connecticut. **Deepa Mavani, MPH**, CT DPH Immunization Program.
- 10:00 Promoting Strategies to Increase HPV Vaccination in a Pediatric Primary Care Setting. **Terri Bernstein, APRN**, Greenwich Pediatrics
- 10:35 Break
- 10:55 HPV-related oral and oropharyngeal disease, patient education, and prevention: an oral healthcare perspective. **Dr. Easwar Natarajan, DMSc.**, Associate Professor in the Division of Oral & Maxillofacial Diagnostic Sciences UConn School of Dentistry
- 11:30 School-based Health Centers and HPV Vaccination. **Rachel DeMarco, APRN**, Community Health Center, Inc.
- HPV vaccine effectiveness by age at administration. **Mallory K. Ellingson, MPH, PhD Candidate, Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases, Yale School of Public Health, McDougal Graduate Teaching Fellow**
- 11:50 How can we continue to make progress? **Connecticut Cancer Partnership's HPV Vaccination Workgroup**
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- **12:00 Adjourn**



Deputy Commissioner Jody Terranova, DO, MPA has been a practicing pediatrician at the University of Connecticut Health Center since 2010, and has held leadership positions as an assistant professor and medical director of the Burgdorf Pediatric Clinic. She has also served on the Windsor Town Council and in the Connecticut Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Deputy Commissioner Terranova is well known to many at DPH because she has served as the chair of the Advisory Committee on Medically Contraindicated Vaccinations.

She received her master's degree in public administration from the University of Connecticut School of Public Policy. Additionally, she completed her pediatric residency at the UConn School of Medicine where she also served as chief resident. Deputy Commissioner Terranova received her doctorate of osteopathic medicine from the Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine.

She received her bachelor's degree in biochemistry from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and brings experience in organizational leadership, policy writing and analysis, and health care delivery, among others skillsets. Deputy Commissioner Terranova will oversee Community Family Health and Prevention, Health Statistics and Surveillance, and the Public Health Laboratory.



Dr. Clark holds the rank of assistant professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the Division of Gynecologic Oncology at Yale University School of Medicine. After finishing residency at Yale New Haven Health, he completed his fellowship training at the internationally renowned Princess Margaret Cancer Center at the University of Toronto where he gained clinical and surgical expertise in all aspects of gynecologic cancer care. He also engaged in a rigorous research program focusing on furthering our understanding of the role of surgery in high-risk ovarian cancer. During his fellowship, he completed a Master's of Public Health and continues to actively research cervical cancer prevention at a population level using healthcare administrative databases. He has received numerous national and international awards for his research, teaching and surgical skills.



Deepa Mavani, MPH

Deepa Mavani is the Adult Immunization and Immunization Quality Improvement Program Coordinator at the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). Over the past 3 years, she has been helping lead the rollout of COVID-19 vaccine program. Deepa has worked as an Epidemiologist for DPH for the past 5 years after obtaining her MPH from UCONN and is currently pursuing a PhD in Public Health from UCONN. Prior roles at DPH have included: vaccine-preventable disease surveillance and outbreak investigations, modernizing school immunization survey surveillance and vaccine data systems, and Connecticut Vaccine Program compliance. Her research interests involve utilizing social behavioral change theories and methods to build vaccine confidence and improve vaccine equity.



Therese A. Bernstein, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, FNP-BC has been a nurse practitioner for over 30 years. She received her Doctorate from Duke University in 2022. She currently works in a private pediatric practice in CT and is an adjunct professor at Pace University in the Family Nurse Practitioner program.



Easwar Natarajan BDS, DMSc

Associate Professor, Oral Pathology, Pathology & Lab Medicine
UCONN Health

Easwar received his Bachelor of Dental Surgery degree from Bangalore University, India in 1998. He completed his post-graduate residency training in Oral Pathology and graduated with a Doctorate of Medical Sciences in Oral and Cancer Biology from Harvard University in 2005. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology and a Fellow of the American Academy of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology. He joined the faculty at UCONN Health in 2005 and has a dual appointments in the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine. He is an Associate Professor in the Department of Oral Pathology and in the Department of Pathology and Lab Medicine. He teaches histology, general and oral pathology in the school's pre-doctoral and graduate curricula. His research interests include the study of mechanisms that regulate epithelial carcinogenesis, including viral and chemical carcinogenesis models. Easwar is a surgical pathologist in UConn's Oral Pathology Biopsy Service and sees patients referred for clinical diagnostic consultations and management.



Rachel DeMarco has been a Family Nurse Practitioner for close to 16 years. She completed her graduate degree at Yale University School of Nursing in 2007. After a year in the nation's first ever Nurse Practitioner Residency Program with Community Health Center, Inc. she transitioned to providing family primary care to a complex group of patients in the FQHC's Middletown office. After having 3 children she transitioned to School based health services providing care in the Meriden community for the past 7 years. In addition to running a school-based clinic at a busy high school she also works as Regional Director for SBHC Medical overseeing the management of a group of providers.