



Live Once Upon A Premie Academy 2021 Speaker Biographies



Jenné Johns, MPH is President Once Upon A Premie, Founder Once Upon A Premie Academy, mother of a micropreemie, author, speaker, advocate, and national senior health equity leader. Once Upon A Premie is a non-profit organization with a two-part mission: donating Once Upon A Premie books to NICU families in under resourced communities, and leading virtual health and racial equity training programs for the neonatal and perinatal community. Jenné is a leading health equity and quality improvement expert who has helped some of the nation's largest payers transform their cultures to be equity oriented while addressing health disparities. Jenné received several awards including 40

Under Forty and 50 Under 50 minority leader for her health equity leadership. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Ecology Nutrition from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, a Masters Degree in Public Health from Temple University, and she is a graduate of the Harvard University Disparities Leadership Solutions Program.

Training Event: October 28, 2021



Dr. Valencia P. Walker recently joined Nationwide Children's Hospital as Associate Chief Diversity and Health Equity Officer. She also holds joint appointments as Associate Division Chief of Health Equity and Inclusion for the Division of Neonatology and Vice Chair of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for the Department of Pediatrics at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. A practicing neonatologist, she champions the elimination of maternal and infant health inequities. Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther tapped Dr. Walker to join CelebrateOne's Strategic Planning Operational Working Group which focuses on decreasing infant mortality rates, particularly for Black babies in the Columbus, Ohio area. A physician leader within organized medicine, Dr. Walker was newly elected to the Executive Committee of the AAP's Section on Minority Health Equity and Inclusion, in addition to her current position as Program Chair for the

Section. Previously, she served as president for the Association of Black Women Physicians, a nonprofit organization dedicated to diversifying the physician workforce, advocating for under-resourced communities and promoting health equity. Dr. Walker completed her undergraduate studies at Florida A&M University and obtained her medical degree from Emory University School of Medicine. She finished a Pediatrics residency at UT Memphis and a Neonatology fellowship at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Prior to joining Nationwide Children's Hospital, she was an Assistant Dean of Equity and Diversity Inclusion for the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and received a MPH in Health Policy from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Training Event: November 22, 2021



Tamorah Lewis MD, PhD is a physician and researcher at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, MO. She is dual trained in neonatal/perinatal medicine and clinical pharmacology. Her research program focuses on developmental pharmacology and pharmacogenetics in the neonatal population. As an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at The University of Missouri, Kansas City School of Medicine, she practices clinical neonatology and works collaboratively to design, implement,

and manage her clinical and translational research program in Neonatal Precision Therapeutics. The overarching goal of her research program is to bring individualized medicine to the NICU population using modern pharmacology tools. Her research career will focus on elucidating the pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and pharmacogenetics of both old and new drugs used to treat neonatal disease, with an emphasis on optimizing and individualizing drug therapy in neonates.

Dr Lewis serves as the Director of Clinical Research Logistics for her Division. She has established the Maternal Neonatal Pharmacogenetic Repository at Children's Mercy Hospital and has multiple prospective pharmacogenetic cohort studies enrolling and depositing diverse bio-samples to this repository. In addition, she has established research collaborations at UCSF (steroid pharmacogenetics), Vanderbilt (ductus arteriosus pharmacogenetics), and Univ of Buffalo (NSAID PK) and is actively engaged as site PI in multi-site studies assessing neonatal drug safety and efficacy.

Dr Lewis is actively engaged in research societies. She sits on the Board of Directors for the American Society of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics and is on the Executive Committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Section on Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics. Dr Lewis is also a member of the International Neonatal Consortium, a multi-stakeholder collaboration run by the Critical Path Institute to advance neonatal therapeutics.