

ASPR TRACIE Webinar

Brief Speaker Biographies

Use of Telemedicine in Alternate Care Sites

July 28, 2020

Welcome

Shayne Brannman, MS, MA

Director, ASPR TRACIE

Ms. Brannman has extensive experience conducting independent evaluations and assessments of government healthcare policies and programs. She has worked on health issues for the U.S. Navy and Department of Defense healthcare systems, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. She is an established healthcare executive with more than 30 years of experience, within both strategic and operational settings. In addition, she is an experienced personnel-planning analyst, with an extensive understanding of personnel and training systems. Ms. Brannman currently serves as the ASPR Director for TRACIE (Technical Resources, Assistance Center, & Information Exchange).

Moderator

Meghan Treber, MS

ICF TRACIE Project Director, ASPR TRACIE

Ms. Treber has over 24 years of experience in Emergency Public Health and Medical Preparedness and Response and Emergency Management. As a first responder, she has served as a departmental Emergency Medical Services Chief, Station Commander, Line Officer, and practicing paramedic. As a Senior Analyst for HHS/ASPR, Ms. Treber served as the Operations Chief. Following her federal service, Ms. Treber held numerous senior leadership positions for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Director, Office of Public Health Preparedness; Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, Director, Office of Policy and Strategic Planning; Special Assistant to the Governor for Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Management; and Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Health for Public Health and Medical System Resilience. Ms. Treber is currently a Senior Director for Public Health Preparedness Practice for ICF and serves as the ICF TRACIE Project Director.

Introductions

Denis FitzGerald, MD

Division Director, Field Operations and Response, Office of Emergency Management and Medical Operations, HHS ASPR

Dr. Denis FitzGerald currently serves as Director of Field Operations and Response within the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He is a Board Certified Emergency Medicine Physician and Emergency Medical Services Medical Director with a significant background and expertise in law enforcement medicine. For the 2020 COVID-19 Response, Dr. FitzGerald is serving as the National Team Lead for Alternate Care Strategies on the Federal Healthcare Resilience Working Group.

B. Tilman Jolly, MD, FACEP

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Dr. Jolly is a board-certified emergency physician with a wide range of clinical, government, special event, and private sector experience. He currently serves as a Senior Emergency Care Consultant to the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response at HHS and leads the Telemedicine Work Group of the Health Care Resilience Task Force, focused on the ongoing response to COVID-19.

Dr. Jolly has held leadership positions in the telemedicine industry and previously he served in senior leadership in the Department of Homeland Security focusing on the broad medical readiness portfolio of the Department.

Dr. Jolly has practiced emergency medicine in the Washington DC area for 27 years. He currently practices at Inova Fairfax Hospital, the only Level I Trauma Center in Northern Virginia. He holds a faculty appointment as Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine at the George Washington University. He also holds an appointment as Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University – Inova Fairfax Campus.

Speakers (listed alphabetically)

Paul Biddinger, MD

Emergency Preparedness Chief and Director of the Center for Disaster Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital

Dr. Biddinger holds the Ann L. Prestipino, MPH Endowed Chair in Emergency Preparedness and is the Director of the Center for Disaster Medicine, and Vice Chairman for Emergency Preparedness in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Mass General. He is also the Director for Emergency Preparedness at Mass General Brigham. Dr. Biddinger additionally serves as the Director of the Emergency Preparedness Research, Evaluation and Practice (EPREP) Program at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, and holds appointments at Harvard Medical School and at the Chan School. Dr. Biddinger serves as a special advisor to the Massachusetts Medical Society’s Committee on Preparedness and serves as a medical officer for the MA-1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) in the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) in the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Dr. Biddinger is an active researcher in the field of emergency preparedness and has lectured nationally and internationally on topics of preparedness and disaster medicine. He has authored numerous articles and book chapters on multiple topics related to emergency medical services and disaster medicine. He has also responded to numerous prior incidents, including Hurricane Katrina, the Boston Marathon bombings, Superstorm Sandy, the 2015 Nepal earthquakes and others. He completed his undergraduate study in

international relations at Princeton University, attended medical school at Vanderbilt University, and completed residency training in emergency medicine at Harvard.

Mary Connelly, RN, BSN

Director, Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team

Ms. Connelly is a registered nurse with an extensive background as an Emergency Department Nurse and EMS Coordinator in the Chicago EMS system. She currently serves as the Director of the Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team (IMERT).

Ms. Connelly is an experienced disaster responder including two missions to Louisiana in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and several deployments in Illinois. She serves on multiple state committees including the Illinois Terrorism Task Force, Public Health and Medical Services, Crisis Standards of Care Workgroup and on projects with the Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Emergency Medical Services for Children and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. She was a participant with the US Health and Human Services Medical work group on Resource Typing and Credentialing.

Ms. Connelly and IMERT regularly collaborate with local MRCs, RHCCs and local emergency management on the design and implementation of mass casualty exercises all over the state. She led the effort in developing guidelines for establishing and operating Alternate Care Sites in Illinois. Mary was a recent recipient of the Illinois Department of Public Health Directors Lifetime Achievement Award for her contribution in improving emergency preparedness and response and for her lifelong commitment to public service.

Darren Sommer, DO, MBA, MPH

CEO, Innovator Health; Javits New York Medical Station

Dr. Sommer is a Board-Certified Internal Medicine physician and CEO of Innovator Health, a telemedicine technology and services company. Dr. Sommer earned an MPH from NSU College of Public Health and his MBA with Health Sector Management Certification from Duke's Fuqua School of Business. Dr. Sommer is also a Health Policy Fellow of the American Osteopathic Association.

As a Professor of Medicine and Technology at the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine at Arkansas State University, Dr. Sommer created the nation's first integrated medical school curriculum teaching telemedicine content going from the PGY-1 year all the way through the PGY-4 year.

Dr. Sommer is also a physician with the US Army Reserves. He has served with the 82nd Airborne Division, completed two combat deployments, and most recently was mobilized to New York to support the fight against COVID-19. His military career spans more than 25 years earning numerous decorations, including the Bronze Star, Combat Medic Badge, and the Combat Action Badge. Dr. Sommer continues to serve as a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army Reserves.