

SPEAKER BIOS

Innovations in Translating Injury Research into Effective Prevention Third Annual Meeting of the Center for Injury Epidemiology and Prevention at Columbia University



Guohua Li, MD, DrPH

Professor of Epidemiology

Director, Center for Injury Epidemiology and Prevention

Professor of Anesthesiology, College of Physicians and Surgeons

Guohua Li, MD, DrPH is the Finster Professor of Epidemiology and Anesthesiology and the founding director of the Center for Injury Epidemiology and Prevention. His research focuses on population-based, injury-related, and policy-oriented studies that encompass novel epidemiological designs, innovative statistical techniques, and complex data systems. He has published extensively on the role of alcohol and other drugs in injury causation and trauma outcomes. Currently, Dr. Li is working on projects aimed at understanding and controlling the epidemic of drug overdose and drugged driving, and uncovering the dynamics of injury risk and injury-disease interaction during the process of aging. Dr. Li is the instructor for the course Clinical Epidemiology (P8450). He also directs the clinical research program in perioperative care and critical care at the Department of Anesthesiology, College of Physicians and Surgeons. Areas of interest include developing practical tools for measuring and monitoring the safety and quality of anesthesia care, identifying and intervening on risk factors for major postoperative complications, and evaluating the long-term effects of trauma and critical illnesses on cognitive functions and health outcomes. *For more information, please contact Dr. Li at: GL2240@CUMC.Columbia.Edu*



Kim Wiley-Schwartz

New York City Department of Transportation

Asst. Commissioner for Education and Outreach

Kim Wiley-Schwartz has been working to make under-served communities better and safer in New York City for nearly 25 years. Originally a musical theatre performer, she began her teaching career bringing richer arts education to New York City public schools working for organizations such as the Metropolitan Opera, the 92nd Street Y and the acclaimed TADA! Youth Theater. After a hiatus living in Jakarta, Indonesia, she began working in the afterschool field specializing in middle school programs and teacher development. Eight years ago, after a four-year-old boy was killed by an SUV just blocks away from her home, she began taking what she knew about arts and education and brought it directly to street safety. She created Streets Education for the advocacy website Streetsblog/Streeffilms where she developed unique programming matching safety education with advocacy. In her current position as the Assistant Commissioner for Education and Outreach at the New York City Department of Transportation, she oversees a team of 30 people working with over 600 schools, senior centers and community organizations each year to help bring the streets to their safest numbers in over 100 years. She has been thrilled to be on the front line of Vision Zero under Mayor de Blasio and Commissioner Polly Trottenberg. Kim is a graduate of Hampshire College and lives in Brooklyn with her children Isaac and Nora and her husband Andy Wiley-Schwartz who is a Public Space consultant at Bloomberg Associates. *For more information, please contact Ms. Swartz at: kwileyschwartz@dot.nyc.gov.*



Hillary Kunins, MD, MPH (Presentation Not Available)

Assistant Commissioner

Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Use – Prevention, Care and Treatment
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Hillary Kunins, MD, MPH is the Assistant Commissioner for the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Use at the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) and a general internist with certification in addiction medicine. Dr. Kunins joined DOHMH in 2012 as an Assistant Commissioner, where she has led the Department's efforts to promote public health approaches to reducing the health and social consequences of drug and alcohol use in NYC, including prescription opioid misuse, best practices in integrating substance use in primary care systems, prevention of overdose and surveillance and reporting on drug and alcohol use.

Dr. Kunins completed the CARE fellowship in substance abuse research and a Master's in Clinical Research at Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore in 2005. She has been the recipient of several grant awards, including an Einstein K12 Career Development Award in Substance Abuse and Health Disparities (2005-2007) and an HIV Prevention Program Grant from New York State AIDS Institute (2003-2012). During her tenure at Einstein/Montefiore, she providing primary and addiction-related care to patients in both community health centers and in substance use disorder treatment programs. Dr. Kunins served as Medical Director of the Hub 2 Methadone Maintenance Program, in the Division of Substance Abuse at Einstein and Director of the Primary Care/Social Internal Medicine Residency Program at Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine. *For more information please contact Dr. Kunins at hkunins1@health.nyc.gov.*



Pina Violano, PhD, MSPH, RN-BC, CCRN, CPS-T

Manager, Injury Prevention and Research Department

Adult & Pediatric Level 1 Trauma Programs
Yale-New Haven Hospital

Pina Violano, PhD, MSPH, RN-BC, CCRN, CPS-T is the Manager of the Injury Prevention Center for Yale-New Haven Hospital's Adult and Pediatric Trauma Departments. She is also the Co-Director and Principal Investigator of the Injury Free Coalition for Kids of New Haven at Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital. Pina received a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing and a Minor in Spanish from Quinnipiac College, a Master's of Science in Public Health from Southern Connecticut State University and her doctorate in Public Health from Walden University. Her dissertation title was "Determinants of the Usage of Child Safety Seats in Connecticut". Pina is a long time employee at Yale-New Haven Hospital. She has worked on the School-Age unit, the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Shoreline Emergency Room, and as the Pediatric Clinical Nurse Educator before her current position as Injury Prevention Coordinator. Her prevention and research efforts have focused on Pedestrian Safety, Bike Safety, Child Passenger Safety, Teen Safe Driving, Distracted Driving, Child Abuse and Neglect, Women's Role in Violence, Gun Violence, and removing unwanted guns from the Community. Pina has received numerous awards including: the 2015 Karen O'Neil Professionalism Award, 2014 Community Service Award from Emergency Nurses Association, the 2011 Child Passenger Safety Technician of the Year Award (which was the 1st time this award was given) from the National Child Safety Board, Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice from Sigma Theta Tau International, as well as the nurse of the year award from YNHH. *For more information, please contact Dr. Pina Violano at: pina.violano@YNH.org.*

Joyce C. Pressley, PhD, MPH (Presentation Not Available)

Assoc. Prof Epidemiology and Health Policy and Management

Mailman School of Public Health

Columbia University

Center for Injury Epidemiology and Prevention

Co-Director of Outreach

Joyce C. Pressley, PhD, MPH, a former Director of Emergency Medical Services, worked to develop and evaluate regional emergency medical services at the pre-hospital, hospital, and critical care center levels. She previously worked with trauma center accreditations in ACS Region 4. She is an Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Health Policy and Management at Columbia University Medical Center and Co-director of the outreach core for the Columbia University CDC funded Injury Control Research Center. She is a member of the Committee on Occupant Protection of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies, Chair of the 2013-2014 Program Committee for APHA's Injury Control and Emergency Health Services section and Director of the Department of Epidemiology's master's level internship and thesis programs. Dr. Pressley's experience in research and community-based injury prevention programs crosses the disciplinary boundaries of health policy, epidemiology, emergency medicine, critical care, economics, health planning and management. She has experience in strategic planning at the local city, county and regional levels gained through her role as a former Director of Emergency Medical Services for an 11 county EMS planning and implementation program whose goals included improving access, communication and public education at the community level and identifying deficiencies and planning for the certification of regional critical care units for trauma, burn and poisoning. Her current research interests include evaluating the impact of legislative regulatory policies and laws on unintentional injury, motor vehicle safety, technological advances for motor vehicle occupant protection, injury-related health disparities and injury in vulnerable populations. She has published in the areas of motor vehicle safety, home safety including window falls, the impact of injury-related laws, injury disparities, and injury in vulnerable populations. She previously served as the principal investigator of an NIH-funded, injury-related health disparities research core, Director of Injury Free Health Policy and Population Studies and chaired the Injury Control and Emergency Health Services Section of the American Public Health Association. *For more information, please contact Dr. Pressley at: JP376@CUMC.Columbia.Edu*



Steven Rogers, MD CPST

Steven C. Rogers, MD, CPST

Attending Physician and Coordinator - Emergency Mental Health Services

Connecticut Childrens Medical Center

Research Scientist and Assistant Professor

Connecticut Childrens Injury Prevention Center & University of Connecticut School of Medicine

Steven C. Rogers, MD, CPST, is an attending physician in the emergency department and serves as co-principal investigator for the Injury Free Coalition for Kids of Hartford, a community-based childhood injury prevention program. Dr. Rogers is an assistant professor at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and is currently enrolled in the masters' program for Clinical and Translational Research. He is a Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) and focuses much of his academic and research efforts on child motor vehicle safety. Dr. Rogers is also the emergency department's behavioral health and psychiatric coordinator, working to improve care for this unique patient population including expanded support for suicidal patients and their families. *For more information, please contact Dr. Rogers at: SRogers@CCMCKids.Org*



Michael Hirsh, MD, FACS, FAAP

**Surgeon-in-Chief, UMASS Memorial Children's Medical Center
Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics UMASS Medical School
Chief, Division of Pediatric Surgery and Trauma (UMMCMC)
UMASS Memorial Health Care System
Medical Director of the Worcester Department of Public Health
Co-Principal Investigator, Injury Free Coalition for Kids of Worcester**

Michael Hirsh, MD, FACS, FAAP is a native New Yorker who is a Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics at the UMass Medical School and Surgeon-in-Chief of the UMass Memorial Children's Medical Center in Worcester, Ma. He is Division Chief of Pediatric Surgery and Trauma and Associate Surgical Director of the Trauma Center and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. He is the Co-Director of Injury Free Worcester and a Past President of IFC National from 2009-11. He formerly served as Principal Investigator of Injury Free Pittsburgh from 1993-2000. His experience is in developing and applying innovative interventions to prevent pediatric injury. He is also a co-founder of Goods for Guns, a firearms exchange program. His prevention work saw him invited in 2012 to serve as the Medical Director for the Department of Public Health for the Central Ma. Regional Public Health Alliance, a consortium of 7 municipalities in Central Ma. Including Worcester, New England's 2nd largest city. Injury Prevention is now one of the 5 top priorities of the region's Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) aiming to make the region the healthiest in New England by 2020. *For more information, please contact Dr. Hirsh at: HirshM@UMMHC.Org*



Garry Lapidus, PA-C, MPH

**Director
Connecticut Children's Medical Center/Hartford Hospital, Injury Prevention Center
Associate Professor of Pediatrics & Public Health
University of Connecticut School of Medicine
Injury Free Coalition for Kids of Hartford**

Garry Lapidus, PA-C, MPH is Director of the Injury Prevention Center at Connecticut Children's Medical Center/Hartford Hospital and Associate Professor of Pediatrics & Public Health at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. He is a published author in the field with over 50 peer reviewed journal articles and has given numerous presentations to local, national, and international audiences. He is past Chair of the Injury Control and Emergency Health Services section of the American Public Health Association. He is the instructor for the "Injury and Violence Prevention" course currently offered as part of the Master of Public Health Program at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. He also serves as a preceptor for medical and public health graduate students engaged in injury research and practicum projects. For more information please contact *Mr. Lapidus at: glapidu@connecticutchildrens.org*



Beverly Miller, MEd

Associate Director, Injury Prevention Center
Arkansas Children's Hospital and University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Injury Free Coalition for Kids of Little Rock

Beverly Miller, MEd, is the Associate Director at the Injury Prevention Center at Arkansas Children's Hospital. Ms. Miller has over 30 years of experience working in health promotions for high risk populations in numerous public health areas, including substance abuse and violence prevention, cancer control, and injury control. In addition to working in the academic and pediatric settings, Ms. Miller has experiences working in a non-profit organization, mental health, and public schools. Arkansas Children's Hospital became a member of the Injury Free Coalition for Kids in 2002. Since that time, Ms. Miller has worked closely with the faculty at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and Arkansas Children's Hospital to develop translational research for populations most vulnerable for preventable injuries, most notably low-income, minority, and/or rural children. Completed studies include a booster seat intervention in rural communities, innovative educational strategies for ATV riders in rural communities, and motor vehicle safety for teens. Among the current studies is an intervention to increase compliance with recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics on safe sleep for infants. Successful awards for injury control include funding from the Allstate Foundation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HRSA Targeted Issues in Maternal and Child Health, and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Ms. Miller received the 2013 Program Coordinator of the Year award from the Injury Free Coalition for Kids. She earned a Master's in Education with an emphasis on special education for the severely emotionally disturbed from the University of Arkansas. *For more information, please contact Ms. Miller at: MillerBeverlyK@uams.edu*



Wendy J. Pomerantz, MD, MS, FAAP

Co-Director, Injury Free Coalition for Kids of Cincinnati
Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, University of Cincinnati School of Medicine and Children's Hospital Medical Center

Wendy J. Pomerantz, MD, MS, FAAP received her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin and her medical school degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, Texas. She completed a Pediatrics Residency at Children's Medical Center of Dallas, a Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship at Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati, and a Master's of Science in Epidemiology at the University of Cincinnati. Currently, she has a faculty appointment as a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine and Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. She has been a pediatric emergency medicine physician since 1998. She has published many peer-reviewed articles in the fields of injury and poison prevention. Her interests include poison prevention, concussions, program evaluation, education, and geographic information systems. *For more information, please contact Dr. Pomerantz at: Wendy.Pomerantz@CCHMC.Org*