



The 29th Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference

Speaker Biographies

Craig Pollack, MD, MHS, is the Katey Ayers Endowed Professor in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (Departments of Health Policy and Management and Epidemiology), School of Nursing, and School of Medicine (Department of Medicine). He is a member of the Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center. Clinically, he practices as a primary care physician in the Johns Hopkins Outpatient Center. His work focuses on two intersecting domains: cancer health services research and social determinants of health with an emphasis on housing policy. He is currently principal investigator (with Dr. Robin Yabroff) of the NCI-funded Housing assistance, Outcomes, Medicare, and SEER (HOMES) Study. HOMES creates a new data linkage between SEER-Medicare and data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and is designed to understand the role of housing assistance across the cancer continuum. Previously, Dr. Pollack was the recipient of a career development award from the National Cancer Institute (co-sponsored by the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, K07CA151910) that used network analytic techniques to examine how provider networks influence prostate cancer care. Focusing on the role of housing, Dr. Pollack is principal investigator of several NIH grants that investigate the impact of housing policies on health. From September 2019 through July 2022, Dr. Pollack worked part time on a temporary assignment with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in their Office of Policy Development & Research, assisting the agency on housing and health issues.

Panagis Galiatsatos, MD, MHS is an Assistant Professor at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. He is co-chair of the Johns Hopkins Health Equity Steering Committee and is the co-director and co-founder of Medicine for the Greater Good, a novel medical initiative impacting over 10,000 Baltimore City lives in regards to health and wellness while at the same time creating physician-citizens. He has published over 80 research articles, with a focus on health equity, community engagement, and contextual-level variables impact on health outcomes, and is a co-author of the book series, "Building Health Communities". During the pandemic, Dr. Galiatsatos and colleagues coordinate community engagement to assure all populations were able to access COVID-19 updates and resources in an effort to assure compliance with public health requests. His clinical responsibilities center on critical care services in adult populations, Director of the Tobacco Treatment and Cancer Screening Clinic at Johns Hopkins Medicine, Associate Director of The Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia Center of Clinical Excellence, and Physician in The Obstructive Lung Disease Group at Johns Hopkins Medicine and in the post-COVID-19 acute clinic.

Ken Lin Tai, MD, MPH, is the Director of the Maryland Department of Health's Center for Cancer Prevention and Control. In this role, she oversees the various Maryland Department of Health programs designed to reduce cancer morbidity and mortality in the state. Dr. Tai has led the development of new cancer programs and initiatives within the Center, and is the principal investigator for two Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cooperative agreements. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Tai was reassigned to the COVID-19 Testing Task Force, where she developed policies and procedures for patient testing and testing sites, led staff training efforts, and provided clinical and operational leadership at testing sites. Dr. Tai also recently spent some time reassigned to the Maryland Department of Health's Diabetes Quality Task Force to support its reorganization and the realignment of its key goals and activities. A board-certified preventive medicine and public health physician, Dr. Tai earned her medical degree from the Dalhousie University Faculty of Medicine in Canada and a Master of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins University.

Toni M. Antalis, PhD, is a Professor in the Department of Physiology and Associate Director of the Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). She completed her Ph.D. in Biochemistry at Rice University, Houston, Texas. She is a cancer biologist with wide-ranging experience in basic and translational research, curriculum development and mentoring, and has had previous experience in the biotechnology industry. She leads a group studying protease signaling pathways in tumor progression and inflammation, and her laboratory is recognized for discoveries in the area of membrane-anchored serine proteases in cancer, vascular diseases and inflammation. She is the Director of the Molecular Medicine Graduate Program at UMB and co-directs a NCI-funded T32 Program in Cancer Biology that supports cancer research training for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and physician scientists, and a NIGMS-supported STAR-PREP post-baccalaureate training program for underrepresented minorities. Dr. Antalis was president of the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) from 2020-2022, and currently serves as past-president. She is a board member of the Cancer Biology Training Consortium (CABTRAC) and has served previously as president of CABTRAC.

Otis W. Brawley, MD, MACP, FRCP(L), FASCO, FACE, is the Bloomberg Distinguished Professor of Oncology and Epidemiology at Johns Hopkins University. He is an authority on cancer screening and prevention. His work also focuses on how to close racial, economic, and social inequalities in the prevention, detection, and treatment of cancer. It is concentrated on the appropriate practice of evidence-based medicine, efficiency in healthcare and the waste that occurs when there is not orthodox interpretation of science. Dr. Brawley was chief medical and scientific officer of the American Cancer Society from 2007 to 2018. Brawley is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (London), a Fellow of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, a Fellow of the American College of Epidemiology and one of the few physicians to be named a Master of the American College of Physicians. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine

Janaki Deepak, MBBS, FACP, graduated from Seth GS Medical College, Mumbai India with honors, then went on to complete radiology residency from King Edward Memorial Hospital Mumbai India and was practicing as a radiologist. On her arrival in the US, she completed internal medicine residency at Medstar Harbor Hospital and her fellowship in Pulmonary and

Critical Care at University of Maryland School of Medicine. She is board certified in internal medicine, pulmonary medicine and critical care medicine. She has won teaching awards and is also the recipient of the Joan Stine Award for Leadership in Tobacco Prevention and Control presented by the Maryland Department of Health and the Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law. She is also the recipient of the 2021-2022 Herbert S. Waxman Award for Outstanding Medical Student Educator from the American College of Physicians. Her clinical and research interests include Tobacco treatment and Lung cancer screening. She runs the lung cancer screening program both at University of Maryland and the Baltimore Veterans Administration and is the director of lung cancer clinic at the Baltimore Veterans Administration Medical Center.