



**ENTREPRENEURIAL FACULTY SCHOLARS**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

# **PARTNERSHIPS FOR PROPELLING CLINICAL TRANSLATION**



## **20 TRANSLATIONAL 18 MEDICINE SYMPOSIUM**

**February 26th, 2018**  
**University Guest House Ballroom**

<https://efs.utah.edu/tms2018.php>



CENTER FOR  
**Clinical & Translational Science**  
University of Utah Med  
into Grad Program (U2M2G)

CENTER FOR  
MEDICAL  
INNOVATION

The 2018 Translational Medicine Symposium is organized under the auspices of the Entrepreneurial Faculty Scholars in collaboration with the HHMI Med to Grad program (U2M2G), the Center for Medical Innovation, and the TVC. The symposium will address how clinicians' ideas and research results can have an impact on patient care -- if they are translated into clinical practice. Clinician innovators and entrepreneurs will share their experience and a panel of experts will discuss opportunities, barriers, and steps in creating impactful healthcare innovations. This is a great opportunity for faculty, student and postgraduate entrepreneurs to get acquainted with the complex and non-linear process of translating medical devices, diagnostics, therapeutics, and digital health innovations.

## OPENING REMARKS

### **Andrew Weyrich, Ph.D., University of Utah Vice President for Research**



Dr. Weyrich, who has been the University of Utah Vice President for Research since 2016, is recognized for his discoveries of novel gene expression pathways in anucleate platelets. His group studies how platelets and their precursor, the megakaryocyte, regulate thrombosis in health and disease. Dr. Weyrich's group studies how megakaryocytes and platelets operate at the mechanistic and functional level, with the long-term goal of advancing the management and treatment of patients who suffer from thrombotic complications. Dr. Weyrich has a master's in health and exercise science from Wake Forest University and a doctorate in physiology/pharmacology from the Bowman Gray School of Medicine. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Thomas Jefferson University before coming to the University of Utah. Dr. Weyrich holds an H. A. and Edna Benning Presidential Endowed Chair, a recognition honoring the university's top medical researchers.

## ORGANIZERS



### **Leena Bhoite, Ph.D.**

Dr. Bhoite has a Ph.D. degree in Molecular Biology and broad industry experience in preclinical drug development from Myrexis Inc. and project management in medical devices from Great Basin Scientific Inc. She joined TVC in 2012, implementing the breadth of experience to leading and managing University of Utah Healthscience innovation portfolio, with a focus on medical devices, therapeutics, and diagnostics. She has worked closely with faculty inventors and external partners to advance many innovations to market-readiness. She evaluates University innovations for business opportunity and intellectual property that can be further developed for commercialization.



### **Kai Kuck, Ph.D.**

Professor of Anesthesiology and Director of Bioengineering, Chair of the University of Utah Entrepreneurial Faculty Scholars, and President of the Society of Technology in Anesthesia has been involved in the research and development of anesthesia and critical care technologies since 1991. He has authored more than 30 publications and 14 US and international patents. Prior to joining the faculty, Dr. Kuck served many years in a senior management position as Dräger's head of research, overseeing 40 industrial scientists and 30 students.



### **Tomasz J. Petelenz, Ph.D.**

Dr. Petelenz is a Research Associate Professor at the Department of Bioengineering, University of Utah. His teaching and research interests include translational bioengineering, regulatory science, and medical device design. His professional experience encompasses a range of bioengineering areas, including implantable cardiac pacemakers, iontophoretic and infusion drug delivery, kidney dialysis machines, biosensors, optical sensors, cardiovascular devices, wireless data communication, prosthetics, and small business startups. Dr. Petelenz holds degrees in physics-microelectronics (MS) and bioengineering (PhD), and is an inventor / co-inventor on 30 patents, and author/co-author of more than 40 publications and presentations.

# Session 1

## THERAPEUTICS

- 11:30am **Arrive and Collect Lunch Boxes**
- 12:00pm **Welcome (Kai Kuck)**
- 12:10pm **Introduction and Opening Remarks (Andy Weyrich)**
- 12:20pm **Session I: Therapeutics (Moderator: Randy Peterson)**  
D-Peptide Therapeutics for HIV (Michael Kay)  
Novel Preclinical Approaches to Glaucoma Therapy (David Krizaj)  
Q & A with Speakers and Panelists
- 1:20pm **Session II: Diagnostics (Moderator: Karen Heichman)**  
Utah Genome and Janssen Collaborate on Cancer Prevention (Deb Neklason)  
Bioclassifier: Genetic Signatures for Detecting Relapse Risk in Cancers (Phil Bernard)  
Q & A with Speakers and Panelists
- 2:20pm BREAK
- 2:40pm **Session III: Medical Devices (Moderator: Shawn Fojtik)**  
A Novel Pediatric Bronchoscope ((Johannes) Fred Grimmer)  
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- 3:40pm **Session IV: Apps & IT (Moderator: Roger Altizer)**  
OR Tool Software for Surgical Suite Cost Efficiency (Selina Young)  
Digital Asthma Tracker (Flory NKoy)  
Q & A with Speakers and Panelists
- 4:40pm BREAK
- 5:00pm **Open Discussion and Closing Remarks (Kai Kuck)**
- 5:20pm End
- 6:00PM Dinner (by invitation only)

### PRESENTATIONS

#### **D-Peptide Therapeutics for HIV (Michael Kay, MD, PhD)**

Peptides have great potential as therapeutic agents, but their use is often limited by susceptibility to proteolysis and their resulting in vivo fragility. Dr. Kay's peptidomimetic approach focuses on the use of mirror-image (D-peptide) as a novel viral entry inhibitor for the treatment and prevention of HIV. The technology is licensed to SLC-based Navigen, now poised to advancing the drug candidate to clinical development with support from multiple grants.

#### **Novel Preclinical Approaches to Glaucoma Therapy (David Krizaj, PhD)**

Glaucoma is the most prevalent irreversible blinding disease in the world with current treatment focusing on lowering intraocular blood pressure (IOP). Moran Eye Center has developed a small molecule ion-channel inhibitor that targets the physiological cause of IOP providing neuroprotection of retinal ganglion cells and lowering IOP. The technology was recently licensed to SLC-based Aspectu LLC.

## SESSION 1 -- Therapeutics (1/2)



Panelist

### **James Cunningham, M.Sc.**

James Cunningham, a clinical research consultant with Elevare Life Sciences, has over 25 years of experience in the clinical research and development of investigational drugs, diagnostic agents, and medical devices. He has managed Phase I through III clinical research programs in Director level positions with established and early stage companies incl. Searle/Monsanto, Bone Care Int'l, ZARS Pharma, Nordion and NuView Life Sciences, in clinical settings including oncology, cardiovascular disease, pain management, and infectious disease. He has a B.Sc. in Microbiology from McGill and a M.Sc. in Pharmacology from the Université de Montréal



Panelist

### **Ryan Davies**

Ryan Davies is the CEO of Curza, a small-molecule therapeutics company that has developed several distinct classes of drugs focused on infectious diseases and oncology. He was named as one of Utah's top 40 business leaders under the age of 40 in 2012. Ryan has founded and led companies including in energy development, market research, and environmental commodity and a leading e-commerce and inventory management software company, which he helped in its \$110million acquisition by a New York-based computer hardware company. Ryan holds degrees in Business Management and political science from Ricks College and BYU.



Panelist

### **Loren Hulse J.D.**

Loren Hulse is partner at law firm Stoel Rives and assists life science companies in creating and maintaining patent and trademark portfolios. As former in-house intellectual property counsel for NPS Pharmaceuticals and Ceramatec, Inc., Loren has managed large domestic and international IP portfolios, including that of an FDA-approved drug product. Loren has extensive life sciences technology experience includes small molecule and peptide drugs, methods of treatment, genes, genetic constructs, protein constructs, nucleotide analogs, genetic therapies, RNA-related drug technology and various chemical compositions.



Speaker

### **Michael S. Kay, M.D., Ph.D.**

Dr. Kay is a Professor of Biochemistry in the School of Medicine and Director of the Biological Chemistry Graduate Program. Before coming to Utah in 2001, he trained with Harold Scheraga at Cornell University (BA in Biology and Chemistry), Robert Baldwin at Stanford University (MD/PhD in Biochemistry), and Peter Kim at MIT (Damon Runyon Postdoctoral Fellow). His lab designs mirror-image peptides for use as novel therapies that are not degraded in the body, with a special emphasis on viral entry inhibitors.

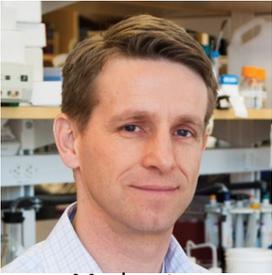


Speaker

### **David Krizaj, Ph.D.**

Dr. Krizaj, Prof. of Ophthalmology/Visual Sciences did graduate training at New York University with Paul Witkovsky focusing on synaptic signaling between retinal cells and postdoctoral work with David Copenhagen at University of California San Francisco School of Medicine, working on intracellular signaling in photoreceptors. He spent six years as faculty at the at UCSF Dept. of Ophthalmology before joining the Moran Eye Center at University of Utah Health in 2007.

## SESSION 1 -- Therapeutics (2/2)



Moderator

### **Randall Peterson, Ph.D.**

Randall T. Peterson, PhD is a chemical biologist whose research utilizes high-throughput screening technologies to discover new drug candidates for cardiovascular and nervous system disorders. The Peterson lab screens use living zebrafish, ensuring that the drug candidates discovered are active in vivo. Several of the compounds discovered by the Peterson laboratory have become widely used research tools or preclinical drug candidates. After 14 years on the faculty at Harvard University, he joined the University of Utah in 2017 as L.S. Skaggs Presidential Endowed Professor and Dean of the College of Pharmacy.



Panelist

### **Daniel Wettstein, Ph.D.**

Dr. Wettstein is Senior Director of Pre-Clinical Development at Navigen. Prior to joining Navigen, he spent several years at Myriad Genetics and Myriad Pharmaceuticals (Myrexis). Dr. Wettstein served as manager of Myriad's cancer biology portfolio, program director for cancer therapeutics, director of preclinical studies, and science advisor at Tekcapital. He received his undergraduate degree in Biochemistry from UCLA and received his PhD in Immunology and MD from Stanford University. He was a postdoctoral fellow in the Molecular Neurobiology Laboratories at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in San Diego.

# Session 2

## DIAGNOSTICS

- 11:30am **Arrive and Collect Lunch Boxes**
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- 2:20pm BREAK
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### PRESENTATIONS

#### **Utah Genome and Janssen Collaborate on Cancer Prevention (Deb Niklason, PhD)**

The University of Utah has a rich history in discovering genes responsible for cancer risk and using this knowledge to prevent cancer. Upon broad discussion of disease interests with Janssen Research & Development, one common area of interest centered around cancer prevention and interception. Utah will be enrolling research participants from their large high-risk cancer research registry and will bring expertise in the areas of genomic analysis and immunology. Janssen will applying their expertise and technological resources for genomic analysis, inflammation, and pharmacologic interventions. Together we hope to identify and advance ways to intercept cancer development.

#### **Bioclassifier: Genetic Signatures for Detecting Relapse Risk in Cancers (Philip Bernard, MD)**

Bioclassifier LLC was established in 2011 to consolidate the intellectual property contributed by 4 public institutions in the US and Canada: The University of Utah, The University of North Carolina, Washington University in St. Louis, and The University of British Columbia. This unique academic collaboration spawned a business enterprise that led to the validation and commercialization of a complex gene expression signature for making chemotherapy decisions in breast cancer. The PAM50 signature was licensed from Bioclassifier LLC to NanoString Technologies Inc and is now a de-centralized clinical test offered worldwide for determining risk of relapse (RoR score) in ER+ breast cancer.

## SESSION 2 -- Diagnostics



Speaker

### **Philip S. Bernard, M.D.**

Philip Bernard, MD, is an associate professor of pathology at the University of Utah School of Medicine, medical director of Molecular Oncology Diagnostics at ARUP Laboratories, and a Huntsman Cancer Institute investigator. Dr. Bernard's research focuses on molecular classifications of tumors for the prognosis and treatment of cancer. This includes predicting response to therapy and monitoring residual disease and correlating clinical behavior of tumors with molecular features. Dr. Bernard received his medical degree from the University of Utah in 1996 where he also completed postdoctoral training and a clinical residency.



Panelist

### **Jay Boniface, Ph.D.**

Dr. Boniface is the Chief Scientific Officer at Sera Prognostics. He previously served as scientist and program director for a number of biotechnology companies focused on protein discovery and small molecule and immunotherapeutic drug development including Myrexix, Myriad Genetics, Prolexys Pharmaceuticals, and Eos Biotechnology. Dr. Boniface earned his Ph.D. in biochemistry at Albany Medical College and was a postdoctoral scholar in molecular immunology at Stanford University.



Moderator

### **Karen Heichmann, Ph.D.**

Dr. Heichman is Vice President, Technology Assessment and Licensing, Director of the PharmaDx program at ARUP Laboratories, and adjunct associate professor at the University of Utah School of Medicine. At ARUP she develops and manages collaborations with pharmaceutical companies. The PharmaDx team recently received FDA approval of two companion diagnostic tests for use with the drug Gleevec. Dr. Heichman holds an AB in genetics from UC Berkeley, a PhD in biological chemistry from UCLA, and trained as a postdoctoral fellow at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle.



Panelist

### **Benjamin G. Jackson, J.D.**

Benjamin G. Jackson is Vice President of Legal Affairs at Myriad Genetics. He oversees Myriad's intellectual property portfolio and much of Myriad's commercial legal matters. He was involved in Myriad's litigation surrounding the BRCA genes, including the AMP case that went to the Supreme Court. Mr. Jackson is active in IP policy, including life science industry think tanks and roundtables and amicus brief advocacy at the Supreme Court and Federal Circuit. He holds a degree from UCLA in microbiology, immunology, and molecular genetics and a J.D. from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University.



Panelist

### **Lars Mouritsen, B.S.**

Lars Mouritsen is the Executive Director, Biomarker Development at Tolero Pharmaceuticals where he is responsible for the integration of translational research and biomarker strategies into the clinical and pre-clinical programs of Tolero's pipeline. He oversees the delivery of high quality biomarker strategies for target engagement, pharmacodynamic endpoints, patient selection, and provides insights into novel ways to incorporate biomarkers into clinical designs. Prior to his role at Tolero Pharmaceuticals, Lars Mouritsen served as Chief Scientific Officer at Sorenson Genomics.



Speaker

### **Deb Neklason, Ph.D.**

Deborah Neklason, PhD, is a member of Huntsman Cancer Institute's colon cancer research team, research associate professor in the Department of Oncological Sciences, and member of the Cancer Control and Population Sciences Program. Neklason coordinates clinical and basic research projects originating from the Familial Colon Cancer Clinic, working to identify genes responsible for cancer in these families and to characterize the molecular consequences of the genetic mutations. She is also involved in the largest search ever launched for brothers and/or sisters with a common colon cancer gene.

# Session 3

## MEDICAL DEVICES

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OR Tool Software for Surgical Suite Cost Efficiency (Selina Young)  
Digital Asthma Tracker (Flory NKoy)  
Q & A with Speakers and Panelists
- 4:40pm BREAK
- 5:00pm **Open Discussion and Closing Remarks (Kai Kuck)**
- 5:20pm End
- 6:00PM Dinner (by invitation only)

### PRESENTATIONS

#### **A Novel Pediatric Bronchoscope (Fred Grimmer, MD)**

Foreign body aspiration is the 3rd and 4th leading cause of accidental death of children ages 0-1 and 1-4 years old, with a 3.4% mortality rate of children hospitalized due to foreign body aspiration. A new design featuring a rigid bronchoscope improves the flow of gases during instrumentation to prevent hypoxemia and hypercarbia during foreign body removal (FBR), in pediatric patients (18-30 months old).

#### **Abdominal Pressure Monitoring (Edward Kimball, MD)**

The AbViser monitor measures urinary bladder pressure as an indicator of abdominal pressure, facilitating the management of intraabdominal hypertension (IAH) and prevention of abdominal compartment syndrome. The Abviser was invented by Dr. Kimball at the University of Utah and then commercialized in the 2000s.

## SESSION 3 -- Medical Devices (1/2)



Panelist

### **Logan B. Christensen, MS, JD**

Logan B. Christensen is an IP prosecution attorney working on both international and U.S. patents. His advanced degree in biological engineering and research and experience in medical device design, bioreactor and bioprocess design, bioreactor control system programming and design, recombinant microorganism design and related molecular biological techniques, biofuels production, environmental remediation, and wastewater treatment, give him a deep understanding that contributes to his preparation and prosecution of patent applications for clients in the life science, chemical, mechanical, and software arts.



Panelist

### **Tony Elangovan, M.B.A.**

Tony Elangovan is a strategic marketing manager at Becton Dickinson, where he is responsible for strategy for the business unit and new product development marketing for the Vascular Access Technologies group. Previous roles include; business development manager supporting the M&A function at the divisional level, product management supporting upstream peripheral access products, and R&D engineering supporting new product development. He holds an MBA degree and a degree in material science & engineering from the University of Utah.



Moderator

### **Shawn Fojtik, MA**

Shawn Fojtik is co-founder of Distal Access, Control Medical, CIRCA Scientific, Pinyons, Transit, Axiom, Occam, and Fluidx with experience at GE Medical, Boston Scientific, and Black & Decker. His experience includes devices for cardiology, interventional radiology & oncology, electrophysiology, surgery, enteral feeding, and other procedures. Shawn has 40+ issued and pending patents, a BS from the University of Illinois, MA from Harvard University, and is an adjunct professor of surgery at the University of Utah.



Speaker

### **Fred Grimmer, M.D.**

Dr. Grimmer is the Director of the Vascular Anomalies Center at Primary Children's Medical Center and coordinates the multidisciplinary care that such patients often require. He serves on the National Task Force for Vascular Anomalies and as the Otolaryngology Residency Program Director at the University of Utah. His research interest is in studying the genetic etiology of vascular tumors and vascular malformations and has been successful in obtaining several research grants.



Speaker

### **Edward Kimball, M.D.**

Dr. Kimball is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Emergency Medicine. He is Co-Director of the SICU and the Director of the VA SICU. His research focus is Intra-abdominal hypertension and the abdominal compartment syndrome, shock, resuscitation and sepsis. He invented a noninvasive device for measuring abdominal pressure, and helped commercialize it. It has evolved into a successful product that is being marketed internationally by a major medical device company.

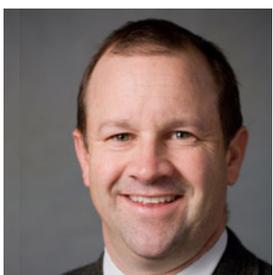
## SESSION 3 -- Medical Devices (2/2)



Panelist

### **Tim Nieman**

Tim Nieman has extensive experience as a medical device professional and entrepreneur. In addition to his track record of leading and growing businesses he has specialized experience in medical device development, manufacturing, regulatory, and design control. His experience spans numerous medical specialties but specifically includes development of technologies for cardiac and vascular surgery, stent and catheter based therapies, LVADs, and laser and radiofrequency tissue ablation. Through various capacities from engineer to entrepreneur he has directed and conducted numerous product development efforts.



Panelist

### **Chris Tihansky, M.S., M.B.A.**

Chris Tihansky, Director of Technology Management at the University of Utah's TVC, has more than 25 years of experience in the emerging medical technology and healthcare financials services industries. He served as the U.S. President of Mauna Kea Technologies, as a Senior Healthcare Analyst at Genesis Merchant Group, an investment banking firm, Vice President and General Manager of Teleflex Medical, and President/CEO of Surgical Services, Inc. He holds an MBA from the University of San Diego, an MS in Biomedical Engineering from Drexel University, and a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Lehigh University.

# Session 3

## HEALTHCARE IT & APPS

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4:40pm	BREAK
5:00pm	<b>Open Discussion and Closing Remarks (Kai Kuck)</b>
5:20pm	End
6:00PM	Dinner (by invitation only)

### PRESENTATIONS

#### **OR Tool Software for Surgical Suite Cost Efficiency (Selina Young, MBA, BS, RN)**

A significant proportion of surgical costs are associated with highly trained personnel needed to support surgeries. Therefore, to decrease costs, surgical case scheduling should be maximized per time while attenuating OR downtime, late rooms and/or variability. The University of Utah team has designed a surgical software tool that integrates personnel costs, preferences, historical data (Anesthesiology, Nursing and Surgical Techs) for managing scheduling. The software interface is graphical and allows users to prospectively hypothesize and test optimal OR scheduling and staffing providing insight into cost-containment schemes.

#### **Digital Asthma Tracker (Flory Nkoy, MD, MS, MPH)**

The eAsthma Tracker is a new approach to manage asthma that is proactive as opposed to reactive. This web-based tool is a way for patients to regularly report their symptoms and to identify when asthma is poorly controlled and eliminate asthma exacerbations before they happen. To date, nearly 700 kids have benefited from using eAsthma Tracker resulting in significant reduction in ED visits and improved quality of life for them and their parents. The team is currently exploring way to introduce the tool to adults who suffer from chronic lung diseases.

## SESSION 4 -- Healthcare IT and Apps (1/2)



Moderator

### **Roger Althizer, Ph.D.**

Roger Althizer is the co-founder of the Entertainment Arts and Engineering program, the top ranked game design program in the nation, the Director of Digital Medicine for the Center for Medical Innovation, and the founding Director of The GApp lab (Therapeutic Games and Apps). Roger specializes in serious and medical games as well as game design and development. A former games journalist, he is an internationally recognized speaker and has presented at the Games Developer Conference and Penny Arcade Expo, and academic conferences e.g., the Digital Games Research Association and Foundations of Digital Games.



Panelist

### **Brad Barger, J.D.**

Brad Barger is a patent attorney at Workman Nyddegger law firm, focussing on intellectual property rights within a broad array of subject matters, including computer systems, telecommunications, software, plasma display circuits, bio-medical devices, and many others. He represents companies in many different stages, from early start-ups to some of the largest technology corporations. He provides strategic and leadership advice in developing aggressive IP strategies to protect innovations and maximize the value of the companies' IP portfolios. Mr. Barger studied electrical engineering and holds a JD from BYU's J Reuben Clark law school.



Panelist

### **Brent Elieson, MBA**

Brent Elieson leads the IT Business Office for The University of Utah which includes innovation activities for Health Care IT. His project experience includes: real time location of medical equipment, telemedicine technology development, inpatient digital experience, home monitoring technologies, clinic automation, limited mobility home automation and artificial intelligence for medical informatics. He also serves in advisory positions with multiple startups along the Wasatch front. His undergraduate studies were in EE & IT-Security. He is a graduate of the Pacific Coast Banking School Masters program and holds an MBA in IT Management.



Panelist

### **Vikrant Deshmukh, Ph.D., J.D., M.S.**

Dr. Deshmukh is a Lead Principal Data Warehouse Architect at University of Utah Health, and leads the Data Science Services group that serves the U's health sciences research community. He holds adjunct faculty appointments in the University's School of Medicine and College of Nursing. Dr. Deshmukh has a PhD in Biomedical Informatics, Masters' degrees in Bioengineering and Biotechnology, and a JD from the University of Utah. He is interested in enabling clinical and translational research and in finding the right balance between the rights of individual patients and biomedical innovation.



Panelist

### **Justin Kahn, BS BA**

Mr. Kahn has been the driving force of TruClinic and has successfully guided the company from development, to pilot, to rollout and scale. His goal for the company is to make healthcare accessible to everyone. He is passionate about social entrepreneurship and the belief that a company can provide for the social good while still having an economically successful business. Mr. Kahn has been recognized for his work with TruClinic by Utah Business Magazine's 40 Under 40 list in 2011 and was also nominated as an HIMSS H.I.T. Game Changer for the Innovators, Up and Coming category in 2014.

## SESSION 4 -- Healthcare IT and Apps (2/2)



Speaker

### **Flory Nkoy, M.D., M.S., M.P.H.**

Dr. Nkoy is an Associate Research Professor at the University of Utah, Department of Pediatrics and an Adjunct Associate Professor in Biomedical Informatics. He also serves as the Research Director for the Division of Pediatric Inpatient Medicine. His research interest focuses on the care of patients with asthma. Dr. Nkoy developed the AsthmaTracker, an innovative, patient-centered tool. It is designed to change the way asthma care is delivered from the current intermittent acute care model to proactive management through ongoing patient self-monitoring of symptoms to prevent the risk of asthma exacerbations.



Speaker

### **Selena Young, M.B.A., B.S., R.N.**

Ms. Young is the Senior Nursing Director of Ambulatory Surgery and Ambulatory Clinical Practice at University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics and has a strong background and experience in healthcare operations, healthcare, customer service, strategic planning, healthcare industry, and business process improvement. Ms. Young holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Utah, and a Master of Business Administration focused in Health/Health Care Administration/Management from Western Governors University.