CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

JAY BUTLER

Jay C. Butler, MD, FAAP, MACP, FIDSA was appointed by Alaska Governor Bill Walker as Chief Medical Officer for the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services and Director of the Division of Public Health in December 2014. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina Medical School, has completed clinical trainings at Vanderbilt and Emory Universities, and maintains clinical board certifications in infectious diseases, internal medical, and pediatrics. Previously, Dr. Butler was Senior Director for Community Health Services at the ANTHC, where he was also a clinical infectious diseases consultant and Medical Director for Infection Control and Employee Health. Earlier work includes serving as Chief Medical Officer of the Alaska Department of Health Social Services from 2007 to 2009, Alaska State Epidemiologist, 2005-07, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Arctic Investigations Program, 1998-2005, and medical epidemiologist in CDC’s National Center for Infectious Diseases in Atlanta, 1991-98.

ROBERT LAWRENCE

Robert Lawrence, MD, has served as the Chief Medical Officer for the Alaska Department of Corrections since 2013. He is a family practice physician, speaker, teacher, and writer with an interest in connecting Alaska’s vulnerable populations to essential medical care.
Brian J. McMahon is a clinical Liver Specialist (Hepatologist) and the Scientific Program and Clinical Director of the Liver Disease and Hepatitis Program at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage, Alaska, guest researcher at the Arctic Investigations Program of the Centers for Disease Control in Anchorage, Auxiliary professor at University of Alaska Health Sciences Program and clinical professor of medicine at the University of Washington. He obtained his undergraduate degree in philosophy and premed at Seattle University, his medical degree from The University of Washington in Seattle, WA, then completed his internship at the LA County University of Southern California Medical Center and his residency at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics, Iowa City, IA. He has directed the vaccination programs in Alaska Natives that have reduced the rates of acute hepatitis A and B from the highest in the US to the lowest in the world. He has been active in research in viral hepatitis A, B, and C, as well as other liver diseases among Alaska Natives/American Indians, for over 30 years. Dr. McMahon is the co-author of the American Association for the Study of Liver Disease (AASLD) US Practice Guideline on Chronic Hepatitis B and co-chair of the WHO hepatitis B Guidelines Committee. He received the 2017 American Association for the Study of Liver Disease, Distinguished Clinician Educator/Mentor Award. He was elected as a Master in the American College of Physicians and received from them the Alvan R. Feinstein Memorial Award for notable contributions in the field of clinical epidemiology. Dr. McMahon received an Honor Award Certificate from CDC for exemplary leadership in promoting healthy equity among American Indian and Alaska Natives and a Certificate of Appreciation from the National Indian Health Board. He is the author or co-author of more than 150 peer-reviewed papers, 50 book chapters, review articles, or editorials.
Lisa Townshend-Bulson

Lisa is the Clinical Manager for the ANTHC Liver Disease & Hepatitis Program where she practices as a nurse practitioner, supervises clinical staff, and participates as a clinical investigator in liver disease research. She has co-authored several peer-review publications on viral hepatitis. Recently, she was co-chairperson of the Alaska Cure HCV Conference for primary care providers which was held in Anchorage and via webinar, February 2018. She participated on the Hepatology Associates Committee for the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) 2013-2016. Lisa participated in the Hepatitis C Virus Birth Cohort Testing Work Group for the development of the 2012 CDC guidelines for the screening of baby boomers for hepatitis C. She has been a major contributor to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) Liver Disease and Hepatitis Program, helping to lead efforts in maintaining up-to-date hepatitis C treatment information for the ANTHC liver disease website www.anthc.org/hep. Lisa helped develop and cultivate ANTHC’s LiverConnect and AK Echo videoteleconference programs which provide distance education and liver disease specialist support to rural providers in Alaska. She holds a Master’s Degree in Nursing/Family Nurse Practitioner and is certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. Lisa is a member of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.
ANNETTE HEWITT

Annette Hewitt is a family nurse practitioner specializing in the treatment of patients with hepatitis C. She currently practices at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), Liver Disease & Hepatitis Program. She earned both a Bachelor and Master of Science in Nursing from UAA. Annette has over 20 years of experience as a nurse practitioner. She has worked in private practice in Anchorage until relocating her practice to ANTHC in February 2014. Annette is originally from Wisconsin and has called Alaska home since 1983. When she isn’t caring for persons with liver disease, she spends time playing outdoors, practicing new knitting stitches and plotting her next trip to visit the grandson.

LISA MEYERS

Lisa Meyers has over 10 years of experience as a prior authorization specialist. She currently works at Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center as a prior authorization specialist for the past 2 ½ years. Prior to this, Lisa worked in several private medical practices as office manager, prior authorization specialist, billing clerk and receptionist. She was born and raised in Alaska and enjoys gardening, crafting, and family time.

CAROL INDORF

Carol Indorf, RN, MPH has been involved in hepatitis care for Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center in Fairbanks, Alaska, for 14 years. She received her undergraduate nursing degrees at Otterbein University and Master of Public Health through the University of Washington in Seattle. Notable prior work has included State of Alaska public health nursing, immunization coordination in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta and Navajo reservation regions, and pediatric emergency room nursing.
SCOTT MILLER

Scott Miller is a Physician Assistant working at Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center in the Family Medicine Department. He obtained his B.S. in Microbiology at the University of South Florida, in Tampa, Florida, in 2000 and his M.S. in Clinical Medical Science - Physician Assistant Studies at Barry University, in Miami, Florida, in 2002. He originally began his practice in Cardiology while in Miami, up until 2004, when he moved to Alaska to broaden his horizons. He practiced Family Medicine in Galena, Alaska from 2004 to 2006. He then moved to Fairbanks and began his practice at Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center in 2006. In June 2013, he commissioned with the United States Public Health Service and has continued his practice at Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center as a Commissioned Corps Officer. In addition to Family Practice his interests include Cardiology, Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, Infectious Disease, and Public Health. During his off hours, he enjoys spending time with his family including outdoor activities such as hiking, camping, fishing, and hunting.

BENJAMIN J. TURMAN

Ben was born and raised on the north shore of Lake Superior in Duluth, Minnesota. After completing undergraduate studies at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth he went on to complete his general medical training and Master’s degree in Physician Assistant Studies at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, Oregon. Ben worked in Internal Medicine primary care on the Oregon coast in Tillamook for 3 years before moving to Fairbanks, Alaska in 2016. Ben works at Chief Andrew Isaac Health Clinic in Fairbanks practicing general family medicine, with primary interest in geriatric internal medicine, and disease prevention. Outside of work Ben enjoys mountain and trail running, nordic and backcountry skiing, hunting and fishing.
Jessica Rienstra RN joined the Lummi Tribal Health Center as a nurse in 2014 and began the Syringe Service Program and assisted in the formation of Lummi’s HCV elimination project as HCV project Coordinator. With a background in international healthcare, she remains passionate about connecting under-served populations to resources and health services.

CONFERENCE PLANNERS

Rebekah Porter, Viral Hepatitis Prevention Coordinator, State of Alaska (co-chair)
David Stephens, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (co-chair)
Lisa Townshend-Bulson, FNP, Clinical Manager, ANTHC Liver Disease & Hepatitis Program
Annette Hewitt, FNP, ANTHC Liver Disease & Hepatitis Program
Robert Lawrence, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Alaska Department of Corrections
Hope McGratty, PA, Infectious Disease Management Group LLC
Lisa Meyers, Prior Authorization Specialist, Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center
Carol Indorf, RN, Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center
Michelle Foint, Public Health Nurse, Fairbanks Public Health Center