Million Hearts® Priority Populations II

*Individuals with mental health and/or substance use disorders who use tobacco*

April 17, 2018

1pm – 2pm EDT

**Agenda:**
- Welcome/Overview
- Priority Populations in Million Hearts
- Q & A
- Million Hearts® Partners Share
- Updates from CDC
- Closing and Adjourn

**Presenters:**
- Robin Rinker, MPH, CHES, Health Communications Specialist, Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention
- Janet Wright, MD, FACC, Executive Director, Million Hearts®, CDC and CMS
- Aruni Bhatnagar, Ph.D., FAHA, Director of the Diabetes and Obesity Center at the University of Louisville and Director of the American Heart Association Tobacco Regulation and Addiction Center
- Laurie Whitsel, Ph.D., FAHA, Director of Policy Research, American Heart Association
- Doug Tipperman, MSW, Tobacco Policy Liaison, Office of Policy, Planning and Innovation Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- April Wallace, MHA, Program Initiatives Manager, American Heart Association

**Presenter Bios:**

Robin Rinker, MPH, CHES, Health Communications Specialist, Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, CDC

Robin is a Health Communications Specialist with the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention and the Project Officer on the Partner Support for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Cooperative Agreement. She came to CDC in November 2015 from the National Cancer Institute at the NIH where she worked as a Public Affairs Specialist in the Office of Advocacy Relations managing issues and facilitating relationships with external
stakeholders. She joined NCI as a Presidential Management Fellow in August 2012 and completed two years of rotations around the Institute, as well as at CDC in the Division of Adolescent and School Health. Ms. Rinker received her Master of Public Health degree in Behavioral Sciences and Health Education from Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health. A Virginia native, she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Global Public Health at Randolph Macon Woman’s College in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Janet S. Wright, MD, FACC, Executive Director, Million Hearts®, CDC and CMS

Dr. Wright is the Executive Director of Million Hearts®, a Department of Health and Human Services national initiative, co-led by CDC and CMS, with the explicit goal to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes in the U.S. by 2017. From 2008 to 2011, Dr. Wright served as Senior Vice President for Science and Quality at the American College of Cardiology. In that role, she provided medical and scientific oversight of clinical guidelines, performance measures, health policy statements, and appropriate use criteria; quality improvement projects; and the National Cardiovascular Data Registry, a suite of databases containing more than 12 million patient records in both inpatient and outpatient care settings. Dr. Wright practiced cardiology for many years in Chico, California, and during those years, she served on ACC’s Board of Trustees, NCQA’s Physician Program Committee, and the Center for Information Therapy, a non-profit organization committed to the provision of personalized health information during each health encounter. Her primary interests are the design and implementation of systems of care to achieve optimal outcomes for patients and the full deployment of hooks, tricks, and cues that help people get and stay healthy.

Aruni Bhatnagar, Ph.D., F.A.H.A., Director of the Diabetes and Obesity Center at the University of Louisville and Director of the American Heart Association Tobacco Regulation and Addiction Center

Widely regarded for spearheading the new field of Environmental Cardiology, Dr. Aruni Bhatnagar, a Smith and Lucille Gibson Professor of Medicine at the University of Louisville, has spent more than 25 years studying the impact of toxic substances, tobacco smoke constituents and environmental pollutants on heart disease. He is a graduate of Kanpur University, India and received his post-doctoral training at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. Dr. Bhatnagar is known for his pioneering work on the metabolism of toxic substances in ambient air and tobacco smoke, and how they affect the development of cardiovascular disease and diabetes. He
has published over 225 research papers, commentaries and review articles, and 20 book chapters. A leader in cardiovascular health, he has participated in more than 50 peer-review panels of the National Institutes of Health, and has served as a member of the Institute of Medicine’s Committee on Secondhand Smoke Exposure and Acute Coronary Events, as well as the Committee on Long-Term Health Consequences of Exposure to Burn Pits in Iraq and Afghanistan. For the last 7 years, Dr. Bhatnagar has served as Deputy Editor of the American Heart Association journal - Circulation Research. His research has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Defense, and the American Heart Association. He currently serves as Director of the Diabetes and Obesity Center at the University of Louisville and Director of the American Heart Association Tobacco Regulation and Addiction Center.

Laurie Whitsel, Ph.D., FAHA, Director of Policy Research for the American Heart Association

Laurie Whitsel, Ph.D. is currently the Director of Policy Research for the American Heart Association (AHA), helping to translate science into policy at a national level in the areas of cardiovascular disease and stroke prevention and health promotion. The association’s policy research department provides policy development and the foundation for the American Heart Association’s advocacy work at the national, state, and local levels. Guided by volunteer leadership, the AHA policy research team has worked with leading experts around the world to develop policy statements that position the organization on issues that will impact cardiovascular health and reduce mortality, guide the association’s advocacy work, and inform policy makers, practitioners, health care professionals, researchers, the media, and the public. These statements have been cited thousands of times in high impact journals, included in Reports of the US Surgeon General, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization, and publications of the European Union, received billions of impressions in US and global media outlets, and shared on social media. Whitsel presents at national conferences on prevention issues and evidence-based policy making. She has been quoted in national media outlets. Whitsel serves on the Board of Directors for the Health Enhancement Research Organization and the National Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity. She has led the development of AHA’s strategic policy agenda. She has served on expert advisory groups with RAND, the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, the Bipartisan Policy Center, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She has been a sector co-leader for the National Physical Activity Plan and leads the AHA’s internal strategic plan around physical activity. She serves as an expert peer reviewer for several scientific journals and is a consultant on research grant teams. She gives regular guest lectures at Columbia University. Her Ph.D. is from Syracuse University in nutrition science and she is a Fellow and member of the AHA’s National Scientific Council on Lifestyle and Cardiometabolic Health.

Whitsel lives in Ligonier, PA with her husband Brad, and two children, Christian and Amy, who are both attending Gettysburg College. In her spare time, she coaches an AHA jump rope demonstration and competition team which promotes lifetime physical activity for kids and competes nationally and internationally.
Doug Tipperman, MSW, Tobacco Policy Liaison, Office of Policy, Planning and Innovation, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Doug Tipperman is the Tobacco Policy Liaison for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). He coordinates SAMHSA’s Tobacco-Free Campaign, which focuses on reducing tobacco use by persons with mental and/or substance use disorders. In addition, he serves on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Tobacco Control Steering Committee chaired by the Surgeon General. Before his federal government service, he worked extensively at the state and local level to promote public policies that reduce tobacco use. He has helped lead several successful policy change efforts including Maryland’s Clean Indoor Air Law, which succeeded in making all Maryland restaurants and bars smoke-free.

April Wallace, MHA, Program Initiatives Manager, American Heart Association

April Wallace, is the Program Initiatives Manager, leading the development, coordination, and implementation of the Million Hearts® Collaboration activities to ensure alignment with the CDC priorities, goals, and objectives. She provides support to partner activities to advance the Million Hearts priorities and build momentum and capacity at the national, state, and local levels. Prior to April joining AHA, she most recently served as a Product Development Manager at the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) where she managed the development and maintenance of some of NCQA’s recognition and accreditation products from initial concepts through product launch. April was also a Healthcare Systems Director at the American Cancer Society (ACS) where she led the overall relationship management and strategic planning of partnership activities with priority cancer centers in the Washington, DC metro area. Among other significant previous roles, April has worked as an account manager and health educator, managing and coordinating the administrative and operational aspects of online education for Medstar and Inova health systems.