



Women Veterans' Reproductive Health Research Conference

Sponsored by the VA Women's Health Research Network (WHRN)

Dear Attendee,

We are thrilled to have you join us for the **"Women Veterans' Reproductive Health Research Conference,"** on September 20th, a half-day virtual conference focused on advances in reproductive health research for women Veterans.

Our speakers include researchers and leaders with expertise in women Veterans' reproductive health research and policy. The panels address reproductive health concerns across the life course ranging from contraception, infertility, and pregnancy to menopause, gynecology care, and reproductive mental health. The goal of the conference is to inform the development of research agenda priorities in women Veterans' reproductive health.

We have included the conference agenda and speaker bios. We look forward to your participation in this conference.

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is on the left and appears to be "Jodie Katon". The second signature is on the right and appears to be "Elizabeth Patton".

Jodie Katon, PhD, MS | Elizabeth Patton, MD, MPhil, MSc
Women Veterans' Reproductive Health Research Conference, Co-Chairs
VA WHRN Reproductive Health Research Work Group, Co-leads

Women Veterans' Reproductive Health Research Conference Agenda

Monday, September 20, 2021 @ 9-1 pm PT (12-4 pm ET)

Time	Panels and Speakers
9:00 -9:30 am PT (12-12:30 pm ET)	<p>Welcome to the WHRN Virtual Conference Series Elizabeth M. Yano, PhD, MSPH Director, VA HSR&D Center for the Study of Healthcare Innovation, Implementation & Policy, VA Greater LA Healthcare System; Director, VA Women's Health Research Network (WHRN) Consortium; Adjunct Professor of Public Health & Medicine, UCLA</p> <p>Opening Remarks: HSR&D's Commitment to Women's Health Research David Atkins, MD, MPH Director, VA HSR&D Service</p> <p>VA Office of Women's Health: The Importance of Research for Meeting VA Evidence-based Reproductive Health Care Needs for Women Veterans Patricia M. Hayes, PhD Chief Officer, VA Office of Women's Health Amanda M. Johnson, MD Director of Reproductive Health, VA Office of Women's Health</p> <p>Overview of Conference Agenda and Goals Elizabeth Patton, MD, MPhil, MSc Senior Consultant to the Reproductive Health Group, VA Office of Women's Health; Director, Generalist Division Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Boston Medical Center; Assistant Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Boston University School of Medicine</p>
9:30-10:15 am PT (12:30-1:15 pm ET)	<p>Panel 1: Women Veterans' Reproductive Health: From Epidemiology to Implementation Lisa Callegari, MD, MPH Core Investigator, VA HSR&D Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value-Driven Care, VA Puget Sound Health Care System; Associate Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Health Systems & Population Health, University of Washington</p> <p>Kristin Mattocks, PhD, MPH Associate Chief of Staff/Research and Education, VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System; Associate Dean for Veterans Affairs & Professor, Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Medical School</p> <p>Ginny Ryan, MD, MA Subspecialty Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility Consultant, VA Puget Sound Health Care System; Professor & Division Chief, Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility, University of Washington Medical Center Montlake</p> <p>Amanda Johnson, MD (Discussant) Director of Reproductive Health, VA Office of Women's Health</p>

<p>10:15-11 am PT (1:15-2 pm ET)</p>	<p>Panel 2: VA Gynecology Across the Life Course</p> <p>Lauren Beste, MD, MSc, MPH Physician & Affiliate Investigator, VA HSR&D Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value-Driven Care, VA Puget Sound Health Care System; Deputy Chief & Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of Washington School of Medicine</p> <p>Elisheva Danan, MD, MPH Staff Physician & Core Investigator, VA HSR&D Center for Care Delivery and Outcomes Research, Minneapolis VA Health Care System; Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota Medical School</p> <p>Jodie Katon, PhD, MS Core Investigator, VA HSR&D Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value-Driven Care, VA Puget Sound Health Care System; Research Assistant Professor, Department of Health Systems and Population Health, University of Washington</p> <p>Alicia Christy, MD (Discussant) Deputy Director of Reproductive Health, VA Office of Women's Health; Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; Adjunct Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Howard University School of Medicine</p>
<p>11-11:15 am PT (2-2:15 pm ET)</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>11:15-12 pm PT (2:15-3 pm ET)</p>	<p>Panel 3: Reproductive Mental Health from Pregnancy to Menopause</p> <p>Jonathan Shaw, MD, MS Program Analyst, Women's Health Evaluation Initiative, VA Palo Alto Health Care System; Clinical Associate Professor, Stanford University School of Medicine</p> <p>Aimee Kroll-Desrosiers, PhD Research Health Scientist, VA Central Western Massachusetts; Assistant Professor, Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Medical School</p> <p>Carolyn Gibson, PhD, MPH Clinical Research Psychologist, San Francisco VA Health Care System; Assistant Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, University of California, San Francisco</p> <p>Laura Miller, MD (Discussant) Medical Director, Reproductive Mental Health, Women's Mental Health, VA Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention; Professor of Psychiatry, Loyola Stritch School of Medicine</p>

	<p>Panel 4: Where Do We Go from Here? Setting a VA Reproductive Health Research Agenda</p> <p>Amanda Johnson, MD Director of Reproductive Health, VA Office of Women’s Health</p> <p>Laurie Zephyrin, MD, MPH, MBA Vice President, Advancing Health Equity at The Commonwealth Fund</p> <p>Kayla M. Williams, MA Assistant Secretary, Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, Department of Veterans Affairs</p> <p>Kara Zivin, PhD, MS, MA, MFA VA HSR&D Research Career Scientist & Core Investigator, Center for Clinical Management Research, VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System; Professor of Psychiatry & Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Michigan Medical School; Professor of Health Management and Policy, University of Michigan School of Public Health</p> <p>Elizabeth Patton, MD, MPhil, MSc (Moderator) Senior Consultant to the Reproductive Health Group, VA Office of Women’s Health; Director, Generalist Division Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Boston Medical Center; Assistant Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Boston University School of Medicine</p>
	<p>Wrap-up</p>

*Interested in joining the **VA WHRN membership listserv**? Subscribe [here](#).
 Interested in learning more about the **VA WHRN Reproductive Health Research Work Group**? Contact
 Jodie Katon (Jodie.Katon@va.gov) and Elizabeth Patton (Elizabeth.Patton@va.gov).*

Women Veterans' Reproductive Health Research Conference Speaker Bios



David Atkins, MD, MPH

Director, VA HSR&D Service

Dr. David Atkins is Director of VA's Health Services Research and Development (HSRD) Service, a position he began in 2013. Trained in general internal medicine, his interests have focused on the intersection between research evidence, clinical and public policy, and health system improvement. He has written widely about standards of evidence and the role of evidence in guidelines, performance measures, policy and system change. In his current role at HSR&D, he oversees a more than \$100 million intramural health services research program, with more than 600 funded investigators and 245 ongoing research projects aimed at improving the health and care of Veterans. Dr. Atkins joined VA in 2008, serving until 2012 as Director of VA/HSR&D's Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QERI), which focuses on implementation of evidence-based innovations to improve healthcare for Veterans. For much of 2016, he served as VHA's Acting Chief Research and Development Officer, overseeing all four research services in the Office of Research and Development (ORD). Before joining VA, Dr. Atkins spent more than a decade at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and 3 years at the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion as Senior Advisor for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, co-directing a national task force on clinical prevention convened by the U.S. Assistant Secretary for Health. Dr. Atkins received his M.D. from Yale University, is Board certified in Internal Medicine, and has a Masters of Public Health in Epidemiology from the University of Washington.



Lauren Beste, MD, MSc, FACP

Physician & Affiliate Investigator, VA HSR&D Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value-Driven Care, VA Puget Sound Health Care System; Deputy Chief & Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of Washington School of Medicine

Dr. Beste is a board-certified General Internist and women's health provider at VA Puget Sound, where she is also the Deputy Chief of the General Medicine Service Line. She directs the Data and Analytics Group for the HIV, Hepatitis, and Related Conditions Program Office (Specialty Care Services) and has published widely in the areas of viral hepatitis, HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis, and sexually transmitted infections. She is an Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, at the University of Washington and an affiliate investigator with the VA HSR&D Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value-Driven Care at VA Puget Sound Health Care System.



Lisa Callegari, MD, MPH

Core Investigator, VA HSR&D Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value-Driven Care, VA Puget Sound Health Care System; Associate Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Health Systems & Population Health, University of Washington

Dr. Callegari is a Core Investigator at the VA Puget Sound Health Services Research & Development (HSR&D) Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value-Driven Care and former VA HSR&D Career Development Award recipient. She is also Associate Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Health Systems & Population Health at the University of Washington. In addition to practicing as a VA gynecologist and teaching residents, she conducts research focused on developing and testing patient-centered, technology-enabled interventions to address gaps in quality and equity of family planning and gynecologic services in VA. She is also partnering with the VA Office of Women's Health Services on a needs assessment and strategic plan to address gaps in contraceptive access across VA nationally.



Alicia Y. Christy, MD, MHSCR

Colonel (retired) U.S. Army; Deputy Director Reproductive Health, VA Office of Women's Health, Veterans Health Administration; Professor Obstetrics & Gynecology Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; Adjunct Professor Obstetrics & Gynecology, Howard University School of Medicine

Dr. Christy is the Deputy Director of Reproductive Health, in Women's Health Services at VHA. She received her undergraduate degree from Princeton University. She is an honors graduate of Northwestern University School of Medicine. She completed an Obstetrics and Gynecology residency at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, a fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at the National Institutes of Health and received a master's degree in Health Science and Clinical Research from Duke University. Prior to joining VA, she was a Reproductive Endocrinology fellowship faculty member, and clinical investigator at NIH. While on active-duty Dr. Christy was Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. She has authored more than 50 manuscripts and 12 book chapters. She holds the rank of Professor at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and she is an adjunct Professor at Howard University.



Elisheva Danan, MD, MPH

Staff Physician & Core Investigator, VA HSR&D Center for Care Delivery and Outcomes Research, Minneapolis VA Health Care System; Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota Medical School

Dr. Elisheva Danan is a general internist and health services researcher at the Minneapolis VA Center for Care Delivery and Outcomes Research. Her current research is funded by an AHRQ/PCORI K12 award and focuses on developing and implementing trauma-sensitive, patient-centered primary and preventive healthcare practices for women who have experienced sexual assault. Dr. Danan completed her clinical and research training at the University of California, Davis, School of Medicine, the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Health, internal medicine residency and chief residency at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, and an Advanced Fellowship in Health Services Research at the Minneapolis VA. Dr. Danan currently serves as the Minneapolis site lead for the VA Women's Health Practice-Based Research Network, is co-director of the Minneapolis VA Advanced Fellowship in Health Services Research, and is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Minnesota.



Carolyn Gibson, PhD, MPH

Clinical Research Psychologist, San Francisco VA Health Care System; Assistant Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, University of California, San Francisco

Dr. Gibson is a clinical-health psychologist and health services researcher supported by a VA HSR&D Research Career Development Award at the San Francisco VA, where she provides clinical services in the Women's Mental Health Program. Her research focuses on women's physical and mental health related to menopause and aging. Her current work examines women Veterans' mental health, the impact of interpersonal trauma on health during menopause and aging, and the effect of menopause and menopause symptoms on physical and mental health conditions.



Patricia M. Hayes, PhD

Chief Officer, VA Office of Women's Health, Veterans Health Administration

Dr. Patricia Hayes is the Chief Officer, Office of Women's Health, Veterans Health Administration. The Office of Women's Health reports directly to the Under Secretary of Health. In this role, Dr. Hayes oversees the delivery and quality of health care for women Veterans throughout VA systems. Starting with her appointment as the Chief Consultant, Women's Health Services in 2007, she set the goal of changing the VA's language, practice and culture to be more inclusive of women. Under her leadership, the number of women using VHA healthcare has more than tripled to over 550,000 today, and the total number of women accessing all VA services each year is now over one million. She has successfully worked across VHA to expand initiatives for women Veterans' health care into a broad range of areas of importance, including cardiac health, reproductive health and birth defect prevention, infertility, and a comprehensive evaluation of care provision to women Veterans. She chairs the new Under Secretary for Health Women Veteran Modernization Team, an effort to spur the enhancement of services for women Veterans. She is also a member of the VHA steering committee on Health Equity. In addition, she has initiated culture-change campaigns to improve recognition and respect for women Veterans, and to Stop Harassment of any Veteran or employee.



Amanda M. Johnson, MD

Director of Reproductive Health, VA Office of Women's Health, Veterans Health Administration

Amanda Moore Johnson, MD, FACOG, is an obstetrician/gynecologist and Director of Reproductive Health for the Office of Women's Health in VACO. She has been on the Ob/Gyn faculty of Columbia's College of Physicians and Surgeons and has been faculty at the University of Washington School of Medicine, teaching first and second year medical students. She is a gynecologist at the Cheyenne VA Medical Center, where she is also the Women's Health Medical Director. Dr. Johnson is passionate about caring for women Veterans and advocating for their reproductive health needs.



Jodie G. Katon, PhD, MS

Core Investigator, VA HSR&D Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value-Driven Care, VA Puget Sound Health Care System; Research Assistant Professor, Department of Health Systems and Population Health, University of Washington

Dr. Jodie Katon (she/her) is an epidemiologist and health services researcher, a Core Investigator at the VA Puget Sound HSR&D Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value-Driven Care, and a Research Assistant Professor in the University of Washington Department of Health Systems and Population Health. Dr. Katon recently completed an HSR&D Career Development Award and is the co-PI of an HSR&D IIR focused on equity of VA gynecology care for uterine fibroids. Her research focuses on reproductive and sexual health and health equity. She co-leads the VA Reproductive Health Work Group and conducts research in partnership with the VA Office of Women's Health Services and VA Office of Health Equity.



Aimee Kroll-Desrosiers, PhD

Research Health Scientist, VA Central Western Massachusetts and University of Massachusetts Medical School; Assistant Professor, Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Medical School

Aimee Kroll-Desrosiers, PhD MS, is a health services researcher with a background in epidemiology, biostatistics, and anthropology. Dr. Kroll-Desrosiers is a Research Health Scientist at the VA Central Western Massachusetts and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. She is a current scholar in the Institute for Implementation Science Scholars and the recipient of a VISN 1 Career Development Award to study VA perinatal depression care pathways. Additionally, she is currently working with the Center for Women Veterans through the VA HSR&D Researchers in Residence program to study unemployment among women Veterans as part of a National Defense Authorization Act mandate. Dr. Kroll-Desrosiers uses mixed-methods to investigate women Veterans' mental health and VA healthcare utilization during the perinatal period. Her past research has focused on perinatal depression screening, medication use during pregnancy, and exploring perspectives from VA providers on how to best approach mental health care for Veterans during pregnancy and in the postpartum period.



Kristin M. Mattocks, PhD, MPH

Associate Chief of Staff/Research and Education, VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System; Associate Dean for Veterans Affairs & Professor, Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Medical School

Kristin Mattocks, PhD, MPH is the Associate Dean for Veterans Affairs and Professor of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, as well as the Associate Chief of Staff for Research at VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System. Dr. Mattocks received her graduate degrees from Yale University in health policy and administration. Dr. Mattocks is a VA Health services researcher focusing on various aspects of women Veterans' health, including pregnancy and infertility care. Dr. Mattocks also serves as the co-director of the Community Care Research Evaluation and Knowledge (CREEK) Center, which aims to foster collaboration and knowledge diffusion in Community Care research between VA investigators and the Office of Community Care. Dr. Mattocks has two teenage daughters that keep life interesting, and enjoys mountain biking, reading and travel in her spare time.



Laura J. Miller, MD

Medical Director of Reproductive Mental Health, Women's Mental Health, VA Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention; Professor of Psychiatry, Loyola Stritch School of Medicine

Laura J. Miller MD is the Medical Director of Reproductive Mental Health for the Veterans Health Administration. In this role she heads the VA Reproductive Mental Health Consultation Program and contributes to women's mental health training initiatives. She is a Professor of Psychiatry at Loyola Stritch School of Medicine. She has developed nationally award-winning women's mental health services and educational programs and has participated in numerous women's mental health policy initiatives. She has authored more than 80 articles and book chapters related to women's mental health. She has devoted her career to improving the mental health of women through clinical care, education and research.



Elizabeth W. Patton, MD

Senior Consultant to the Reproductive Health group, VA Office of Women's Health; Director, Generalist Division Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Boston Medical Center; Assistant Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Boston University School of Medicine

Dr. Elizabeth W. Patton, MD, MPhil, MSc is an Obstetrician Gynecologist and health services researcher. She is an Assistant Professor at the Boston University School of Medicine, and a senior consultant for the Office of Reproductive Health, VACO, field site VA Boston Healthcare System. At the Office of Reproductive Health, Dr. Patton leads projects to support optimal reproductive healthcare delivery for women Veterans including gynecology clinician education through Gynecology Virtual Grand Rounds, National Gynecology Conferences and the VA Gynecology Virtual Community of Practice (Sharepoint link: VA Gynecology Virtual Community of Practice - Home (sharepoint.com)). In the research realm, she co-leads the VA Reproductive Health Research Network, a national network to promote collaborative research around key issues in the reproductive health of women Veterans. Twitter: @ewinstonpatton



Ginny Ryan, MD, MA

Subspecialty Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility Consultant, VA Puget Sound Health Care System; Professor & Division Chief, Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility – University of Washington Medical Center Montlake

Dr. Ryan is faculty at the University of Washington School of Medicine as Professor and Division Chief of REI with a part-time position at the Puget Sound VA. Dr. Ryan was the REI fellowship Program Director at the University of Iowa from 2015-2019 during which time she led the program to successful ACGME accreditation. Dr. Ryan was named a Women's Reproductive Health Research (WRHR) Scholar (2010-15). She received pilot research funding from the University of Iowa and ASRM and translated that work into a funded IIR (VA HSR&D) research grant to study the impact of sexual assault and combat-related trauma on fertility and other reproductive health outcomes in female and male Veterans (VA HSR&D). As an Associate at the University of Iowa, Dr. Ryan pursued and completed a MA in Bioethics with a focus on Reproductive Bioethics through the Medical College of Wisconsin. She completed residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology in 2003 and subspecialty fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (REI) in 2006 and stayed on as a faculty member at the University of Iowa from 2006-2020. She completed her MD from Washington University School of Medicine in 1999.



Jonathan G. Shaw, MD, MS

Program Analyst, Women's Health Evaluation Initiative, VA Palo Alto Health Care System; Clinical Associate Professor, Stanford University School of Medicine

Dr. Jonathan Shaw is a health services researcher and family physician who has practiced across several safety-net healthcare settings and brings this clinical expertise to a research career focused on vulnerable populations, with specific attention to women's health and psychosocial determinants of health. He is faculty at Stanford University and research collaborator with the Women's Health Evaluation Initiative at VA Palo Alto. During his VA HSR&D postdoctoral training he developed and analyzed the first comprehensive cohort of VA covered deliveries (2000-2012), examining national birth outcomes, specifically focusing on the adverse impacts of antepartum PTSD in Veterans. He has continued large database analysis, in both general and military populations, to explore issues of contraception, pregnancy, and urogynecology. His more recent focus has been implementation science, and he is Medical co-Director of Stanford's Evaluation Sciences Unit (ESU), an entity created to inform delivery of high-quality coordinated care through embedded healthcare delivery research.



Kayla M. Williams, MA

Assistant Secretary, Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, Department of Veterans Affairs

Kayla M. Williams is Assistant Secretary of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). She was most recently a Senior Fellow and Director of the Military, Veterans, and Society Program at the Center for a New American Security. Previously, Ms. Williams served as the Director of the Center for Women Veterans at VA; she formerly conducted qualitative and quantitative research on military and Veteran policies and programs at the RAND Corporation. Ms. Williams was enlisted for five years as an Arabic linguist and is the author of the memoirs [Love My Rifle More Than You](#) and [Plenty of Time When We Get Home](#). She is the former chair of the Department of Labor Advisory Committee on Veterans' Employment, Training, and Employer Outreach; a former member of the Army Education Advisory Committee and VA Advisory Committee on Women Veterans.



Elizabeth M. Yano, PhD, MSPH

Director, VA HSR&D Center for the Study of Healthcare Innovation, Implementation & Policy, VA Greater LA Healthcare System; Director, VA Women's Health Research Network (WHRN) Consortium; Adjunct Professor of Public Health & Medicine, UCLA

Dr. Yano is Director of the VA HSR&D Center for the Study of Healthcare Innovation, Implementation, & Policy (CSHIP) and Director of the VA HSR&D Women's Health Research Network (Consortium) at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. She is also an Adjunct Professor of Health Policy & Management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and of Medicine at the UCLA Geffen School of Medicine. Dr. Yano's primary research expertise is in evaluating impacts of primary care and women's health care delivery models and testing evidence-based quality improvement (EBQI) approaches for implementing and/or tailoring care models to improve quality, patient experience, and health outcomes. She has received the VA HSR&D Senior Research Career Scientist Award (2007-26), the VA Under Secretary for Health Award for Outstanding Accomplishment in Health Services Research (2012), the Breslow Lifetime Achievement Alumni Award for the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health Hall of Fame (2017), and a Special Recognition Award from Disabled American Veterans (2018) for her women Veterans' research impacts, and was named a Woman of Impact in U.S. Health Care (2017). She has published over 250 papers.



Laurie Zephyrin, MD, MPH, MBA

Vice President of Advancing Health Equity at The Commonwealth Fund

Dr. Laurie Zephyrin is Vice President of Advancing Health Equity at The Commonwealth Fund. Driven by a passion to transform health care, she brings her experience as a clinician, health policy maker, and intrapreneur to drive system transformation. She was the first national director of the Reproductive Health Program at the Department of Veterans Affairs, spearheading the strategic vision and leading systems changes to improve the health of women veterans nationwide and served as Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Community Care. She was named a White House Fellow, Young Global Leader, Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar and Aspen Health Innovator Fellow Laurie earned her M.D. from the New York University School of Medicine, M.B.A. and M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins University, and B.S. in Biomedical Sciences from the City College of New York.



Kara Zivin, PhD, MS, MA, MFA

VA HSR&D Research Career Scientist & Core Investigator, Center for Clinical Management Research, VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System; Professor of Psychiatry & Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Michigan Medical School; Professor of Health Management and Policy, University of Michigan School of Public Health

Dr. Zivin is a health services and policy researcher who uses social science and public health tools to improve health and functional outcomes for vulnerable populations with mental health and substance use disorders (behavioral health conditions), including pregnant and postpartum women, Veterans, and older adults. She is Professor of Psychiatry, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Health Management and Policy at the University of Michigan; Research Career Scientist at the Department of Veterans Affairs; and Senior Health Researcher at Mathematica, located in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Dr. Zivin completed her PhD and MS at Harvard University, her MA and BA at Johns Hopkins University, and her MFA at Vermont College of Fine Arts. Dr. Zivin aims to increase public awareness about and influence policy addressing behavioral health conditions by combining research expertise (data) and personal narrative (story).