

# SYNAPSE:

## Applied Healthcare Operations Management & Research Conference

Friday, April 30, 2021  
11:00am – 2:00pm EDT

Production & Operations Management Society Conference  
Organized By  
College of Healthcare Operations Management (CHOM)

[www.poms.org](http://www.poms.org)



### CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

This mini-conference connects healthcare researchers and practitioners to actively discuss *how our thinking about health policy and healthcare operations has evolved during the pandemic*. This helps all of us develop innovative, practical and sustainable solutions that improve the operations of healthcare organizations. This conference provides a venue for discussion between those working and researching healthcare delivery issues to share what works, what doesn't and why, and which areas need greater attention. The conference is meant to complement the POMS annual meeting (April 30 – May 5, 2021) as it gives participants a chance to learn from both practitioners and researchers, and allows time for brainstorming new approaches and research ideas for improving the effectiveness of healthcare delivery systems.

### SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

CHOM Mini-Conference Schedule 2021			
Start	End	Duration	Activity
11:00 AM	11:05 AM	0:05	Welcome
11:05 AM	11:50 AM	0:45	Keynote: Dr. José R. Romero, MD; Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH)
11:50 AM	12:00 PM	0:10	Break
12:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00	Panel: COVID-19 and Healthcare Operations Management
1:00 PM	1:45 PM	0:45	Research In Practice Showcase Presentations
1:45 PM	1:55 PM	0:10	CHOM Best Paper Competition Summary
1:55 PM	2:00 PM	0:05	Closing

### MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!

Please contact POMS College of Healthcare Operations Management (CHOM) Conference Organizers for questions regarding the Synapse conference. **THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!**

### 11:00 am - KEYNOTE PRESENTATION



**Dr. Jose Romero, MD** is Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH). He is a member of the Governor's cabinet and provides senior scientific and executive leadership for the agency. Dr. Romero is currently the chairman of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), which is providing guidance nationally on the prioritization and distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine. He is also a Professor of Pediatrics in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) and has board-certification in Pediatrics and Pediatric Infectious Diseases. He previously served as Chief Medical Officer at the ADH and was Director of the Section of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and the Arkansas Children's Hospital from 2008-2020.

### College of Healthcare Operations (of POMS) – Conference Organizers

David Dobrzykowski, Ph.D. (President) – [DDobrzykowski@walton.uark.edu](mailto:DDobrzykowski@walton.uark.edu), Vikram Tiwari, Ph.D. (VP of Awards) – [vikram.tiwari@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vikram.tiwari@vanderbilt.edu),  
Pengyi Shi, Ph.D. (Secretary) – [shi178@purdue.edu](mailto:shi178@purdue.edu), Nan Liu, Ph.D. (VP of Meetings) – [nan.liu@bc.edu](mailto:nan.liu@bc.edu), E. David Zepeda, Ph.D. (VP of Outreach) – [dzepeda@bu.edu](mailto:dzepeda@bu.edu)



Boston University School of Public Health



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY®  
OWEN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER

# SYNAPSE:

## Applied Healthcare Operations Management & Research Conference

Friday, April 30, 2021  
11:00am – 2:00pm EDT

Production & Operations Management Society Conference  
Organized By  
College of Healthcare Operations Management (CHOM)

[www.poms.org](http://www.poms.org)



### 12:00 pm - PANEL: COVID-19 and Healthcare Operations Management



**David Myers** is SVP Business Development & Strategic Markets at Owens & Minor, Inc. He is responsible for leading strategic initiatives around Group Purchasing Organizations (GPOs), services and solutions, government and strategic growth markets (non-acute). He has nearly 30 years of experience in the healthcare and supply chain management industry, formerly serving as CPO at O&M. With 17,000 teammates serving healthcare industry customers in 90 countries, O&M is a global healthcare solutions company with integrated technologies, products, and services aligned to deliver value for healthcare providers and manufacturers.



**Vikas Parekh, MD, FACP, SFHM** is Associate Chief Medical Officer, Capacity and Operations, Health System and Associate Chief Clinical Officer for Medical Services, Adult Hospitals as well as Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Michigan. He leads health system-wide initiatives to improve patient flow, optimize capacity and improve access and throughput and also currently oversees the clinical operations of the medical and emergency units in the adult hospitals. Dr. Parekh also oversees a team that uses advanced analytics and prediction tools to optimize and improve hospital operations and patient flow. He is also a practicing hospital medicine physician.



**Alison Avendt** is Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at McLaren St. Luke's Hospital in Maumee Ohio. Alison brings 34 years of diverse experience as a healthcare executive and a clinician with a focus on strategy and operational planning. She has a keen interest in how the interaction of the care environment and technology can influence the care delivery experience for patients, families and care providers. Alison's prior leadership positions include Senior Healthcare Advisor at HKS Inc, Vice President of Operations for ProMedica Toledo Hospital, and System President of ProMedica Air and Mobile.

### 1:00 pm – RESEARCH IN PRACTICE SHOWCASE PRESENTATIONS

#### Improving the efficiency of personalized medical decision-making for preventive screening

M. Gabriela SAVA, Luis Vargas, Jerrold May, Linda Limeri, James G. Dolan, MD

#### Reducing ED Peak Time Demand by Empowering Patient Decision-Making: An Investigation into Real-Time Data and Digital Technology

Navonil Mustafee, John Powell, Alison Harper

#### Mixing it Up: Operational Impact of Hospitalist Workload

Masoud Kamalahmadi, Kurt Bretthauer, Jonathan Helm, Alex Mills, Edwin Coe, Alisa Judy-Malcolm, Areeba Kara, Julian Pan

#### Optimization Approaches to Hospital System COVID-19 Load Balancing

Felix Parker, Fardin Ganjkanloo, Farzin Ahmadi, Eili Klein, Diego Martinez, Kimia Ghobadi

#### College of Healthcare Operations (of POMS) – Conference Organizers

David Dobrzykowski, Ph.D. (President) – [DDobrzykowski@walton.uark.edu](mailto:DDobrzykowski@walton.uark.edu), Vikram Tiwari, Ph.D. (VP of Awards) – [vikram.tiwari@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vikram.tiwari@vanderbilt.edu),  
Pengyi Shi, Ph.D. (Secretary) – [shi178@purdue.edu](mailto:shi178@purdue.edu), Nan Liu, Ph.D. (VP of Meetings) – [nan.liu@bc.edu](mailto:nan.liu@bc.edu), E. David Zepeda, Ph.D. (VP of Outreach) – [dzepeda@bu.edu](mailto:dzepeda@bu.edu)



Boston University School of Public Health



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY®  
OWEN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER