

## Speaker Information

**Diane Cullen, RN, MSN, MBA, CIC**      **Associate Director, Standards Interpretation  
Group - Division of Healthcare Improvement  
*The Joint Commission***

Diane Cullen currently holds the position of Associate Director in the Standards Interpretation Group in the Division of Healthcare Improvement at The Joint Commission. She has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois, a Master of Science in Nursing from Loyola University Chicago, Illinois, with a focus in Population-based Infection Control and Environmental Safety. She also holds a Master of Business Administration in Healthcare Administration from Western Governors University. She is Certified in Infection Control (CIC). She is responsible for working closely with accredited and certified organizations to interpret The Joint Commission standards, identify vulnerabilities, and improve their performance. She conducts intracycle monitoring calls, coaching calls, and responds to inquiries from accredited organizations and the public related to compliance with Joint Commission standards. Diane reviews and determines the status of post-survey reports, clarifications, measures of success, and evidence of standards compliance submitted as part of the survey process. She provides leadership and guidance with the team in all aspects of the accreditation process through clinical expertise in infection prevention and customer relationship management, and supports the field representative cadre and other customers through the provision of expert interpretation, guidance, and collaboration.

**Kristen Hayes, MS, RN, CPHQ**      **Director Clinical Quality  
*American Hospital Association***

Kristen Hayes is a Director of Clinical Quality within the Center for Health Innovation at the AHA. She offers operational leadership for organizational initiatives, specifically on the performance improvement team within the Center for Health Innovation. Kristen is primarily responsible for project execution, with particular emphasis on coaching of both external project participants and internal Center team staff. Kristen has a Master's Degree in Patient Safety Leadership as well as a Bachelor's in Nursing from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Prior to joining AHA Kristen worked as a nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care at Rush University Medical Center. While at this organization she worked as a bedside nurse and moved into a leadership position as the Assistant Unit Director. Kristen utilizes her previous experience in a bustling Chicago medical center to enrich the patient safety activities at the national level to bring higher quality care to patients across American hospitals.

**Jessica Leaf, MPH, CIC****Antibiotic Resistance Coordinator**  
*Massachusetts Department of Health*

Jessica Leaf is an epidemiologist with the Healthcare Associated Infections/Antibiotic Resistance (HAI/AR) team at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. She joined the department in 2017, after graduating from the University of Minnesota School of Public Health with an MPH in Epidemiology. She received her Certification in Infection Control in 2019. Her primary tasks involve coordinating the statewide outbreak response and prevention efforts for multidrug-resistant organisms, conducting onsite infection control assessments, and managing data for antimicrobial stewardship in a variety of healthcare settings.

**Radhika Parekh, MHA, CPHQ****Performance Improvement Coach II**  
*American Hospital Association*

Radhika Parekh is a Performance Improvement Coach II within the Center for Health Innovation at the American Hospital Association. Radhika currently supports multiple quality improvement programs, including the national Age-Friendly Health Systems initiative and Project Firstline. Radhika holds a Master of Health Administration degree from the University of Pittsburgh and a Bachelor of Science degree from Loyola University, Chicago. She coaches and guides hospitals through learning collaboratives, develops educational content, and uses data to help hospitals meet their target goals. Radhika also worked on the Hospital Improvement Innovation Network (HIIN) by leading a variety of clinical quality improvement topics, state partner operations and physician engagement activities. Radhika works on several aspects of program management including operational oversight, financial management, recruitment, and meeting planning. Prior to AHA, Radhika worked for University of Pittsburgh Medical Center on quality and performance improvement initiatives. Other experience includes working as a revenue cycle consultant at a healthcare consulting company.

**Elizabeth A. Talbot, MD****Infectious Disease Physician**  
*Dartmouth College*

Dr. Talbot is an infectious diseases and tropical medicine trained internist, who has had extensive experience in international and domestic infectious disease control through outbreak investigation, clinical projects, research, and consultation. She trained at Duke University and with the Epidemic Intelligence Service during which she was stationed in Botswana with the CDC then at the World Health Organization in Geneva before coming to Dartmouth where she is a Professor of Medicine in the Section of Infectious Diseases and International Health at the Geisel Medical School at Dartmouth. Since 2003, Dr. Talbot has been New Hampshire's Deputy State Epidemiologist, where she is engaged in leadership for COVID-19 pandemic response, including policy/guideline development, clinician education, outbreak response, and vaccine and treatment allocation.

**Rebecca Wang, MD**

**Staff Physician, Section of Infectious  
Diseases and International Health  
*Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center***

Rebecca Wang, MD is an Infectious Disease physician at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth. She received her MD from the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth. She went on to complete her Internal Medicine residency and Infectious Diseases fellowship at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, where her academic focuses centered on Transplant Infectious Diseases and Antimicrobial Stewardship. She joined Dartmouth-Hitchcock in 2021. Her clinical interests are broad but in particular include the care of immunocompromised hosts, including individuals with hematologic malignancies, stem cell transplants, and solid organ transplants. She has training and interest in antimicrobial stewardship as well as quality improvement work, and she currently serves as the Medical Co-Director of the Comprehensive Antimicrobial Program.