

# THE 2007 **PHLS** LEADERSHIP SERIES

## Improving Quality on the Public Health Frontline: What Every Public Health Leader Should Know

### Call #2: Advancing Public Health Preparedness and Response Using Quality Improvement Systems

## Speaker Biographies

### Sally Phillips

Director, Bio-Terrorism Preparedness Research Program  
Agency for Health Research and Quality  
US Department of Health and Human Services

**Sally Phillips, R.N., Ph.D.** came to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) in 2001 and became Director of the Bioterrorism Preparedness Research Program in 2003.

As the senior nurse scholar, she managed a portfolio that ranged from bioterrorism preparedness, her primary area of expertise, to multidisciplinary education for safety and related health care workforce initiatives. Prior to joining the AHRQ staff, Dr. Phillips was a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow and Health Policy Analyst for Senator Tom Harkin for 2 years.

Dr. Phillips provides leadership and direction to the Systems Capacity and Emergency Preparedness research portfolio at AHRQ and is the Director of the Bioterrorism and Public Health Emergency Preparedness Research Program. In this capacity, she represents AHRQ on numerous inter- and intra-agency/departmental work groups concerned with public health and homeland security preparedness and response initiatives. She has developed and implemented a research program of nearly \$40 million directed toward preparing models and tools for local, State, and Federal policy makers engaged in planning, response, and recovery initiatives in this area. She is an accomplished author, consultant, and speaker on bioterrorism and public health emergency preparedness research initiatives.

Dr. Phillips has had distinguished academic roles with both the School of Nursing and the School of Medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. She provided leadership and direction for development of an innovative clinical doctorate program for nursing, the Nursing Doctorate program. She also has served on a task force to establish and evaluate an interdisciplinary curriculum on professional conduct and ethics. This curriculum now serves as a model for other health science campuses.

Dr. Phillips is a graduate of the Ohio State University (B.S.), the University of Colorado (M.S.), and Case Western Reserve University (Ph.D.). Her areas of clinical practice are primarily in the care of women, infants, and children with specialty practice in the care of the high-risk neonate.

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## Mark Guarino

Previous Executive Director, Office of Public Health Preparedness  
New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services

**Mark Guarino, MPH** recently served as Executive Director of the Office of Public Health Preparedness for the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. In that capacity, Mark served as senior policy advisor on PH preparedness and statewide local PH infrastructure development including oversight of Federal Preparedness Cooperative Agreements. .

Prior to State government service, he had a 30 year distinguished career as a local Health Officer, Hospital Administrator and President of a tri/state environmental compliance consulting firm.

As County Health Officer for Bergen County, NJ for thirteen years, he had the opportunity to lead cutting edge policy and practice. He initiated transformational work to build infrastructure capacity, established a learning organization culture, improved workforce development, created multi disciplinary teams, integrated business perspectives, instituted QA processes and developed strong community health system linkages.

Mark is currently a National Public Health Leadership Society Council Member. He served two terms on the NAC-CHO Board.

## Nicole Lurie

Sr. Natural Scientist and the Paul O'Neil Alcoa Professor of Policy Analysis  
Co-Director for Public Health, Center for Domestic and International Health Security  
Director, Center for Population Health and Health Disparities  
RAND, Corporation

**Nicole Lurie, MD, MSPH**, is a Senior Natural Scientist and the Paul O' Neill Alcoa Professor of Policy Analysis at RAND. Along with that, she serves as Co-Director for Public Health for the RAND Center for Domestic and International Health Security and is Director of the RAND Center for Population Health and Health Disparities. Prior to joining RAND in early 2002, she had a long affiliation with the University of Minnesota, where she was Professor of Medicine and Public Health, and most recently, Medical Advisor to the Commissioner at the Minnesota Department of Health. From 1998–2001, she took a leave of absence to serve as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In that role she worked intensively on operationalizing the Health Disparities Initiative and on HealthyPeople 2010.

Dr. Lurie attended college and medical school at the University of Pennsylvania, and completed her residency and MSPH at UCLA, where she was also a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar. She serves as Senior Editor for Health Services Research and has served on editorial boards and as a reviewer for numerous journals. She has served on the council and was President of the Society of General Internal Medicine, is currently on the board of directors for AcademyHealth, and has served on multiple other national committees. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the AHSR Young Investigator Award, the Nellie Westerman Prize for Research in Ethics, the Heroine in Health Care Award, and is a member of the Institute of Medicine.

# Public Health Leadership Society

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