



WEBINAR SERIES

## Clinical Follow-Up and Care for Those Impacted by the JP-5 Releases at Red Hill: CDC and ATSDR's Response to the Events

September 22, 2025 | 6 - 8 PM EST | 12 - 2 PM HST

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025**

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**6:00 PM**

### Welcome

**Grace Lee**, *Committee Chair*

Chief Quality Officer and Christopher G. Dawes Endowed Director of Quality  
Stanford Medicine Children's Health and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford

**6:05 PM**

### Introduction and Webinar Overview

**Theresa Cullen**, *Committee Member*

Public Health Director  
Pima County, Arizona

**6:10 PM**

### CDC and ATSDR's Response to the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility Release Event

**Ben Gerhardstein**, *Speaker*

Environmental Health Scientist  
ATSDR/CDC

**6:15 PM**

### ACE/Epi-Aid Investigations

**Stacey Konkle**, *Speaker*

Epidemiologist, ATSDR/CDC

**6:40 PM**

### Biomonitoring Laboratory Considerations during an Emergency Response – Red Hill Water Crisis

**Benjamin Blount**, *Speaker*

Director of the Division of Laboratory Sciences (DLS)  
National Center for Environmental Health, CDC

**6:55**

### ATSDR Red Hill Public Health Assessment Activities

**Lieutenant Commander Irene Lee**, *Speaker*

Environmental Health Scientist  
ATSDR/CDC

**Ben Gerhardstein**, *Speaker*

Environmental Health Scientist  
ATSDR/CDC

**7:15 PM**      **Moderated Panel Discussion**

**MODERATORS:** Alberto Caban-Martinez and Theresa Cullen, *Committee Members*

**7:55 PM**      **Closing Remarks**

**8:00 PM**      **Adjourn Meeting**

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

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**Grace Lee** (NAM) (Chair) is chief quality officer and the Christopher G. Dawes endowed director of quality at Stanford Medicine Children's Health and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford, and associate dean for Maternal and Child Health (Quality and Safety) and professor of pediatrics at Stanford University School of Medicine. She oversees the Center for Pediatric and Maternal Value that seeks to improve quality, safety, patient experience and health equity across the organization. Dr. Lee is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and AHRQ's Healthcare Safety and Quality Improvement Research Study Section. She also served as a Board Member for the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA), Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (PIDS), and the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice. She was previously the Chair of the U.S. Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) that recommends vaccines for the U.S. population. Dr. Lee received her MD from the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine and her MPH from Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Lee has previously served as a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee (IOM) to Review Priorities in the National Vaccine Plan, the IOM Committee on the Ethical and Scientific Issues in Studying the Safety of Approved Drugs, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) Committee on Vaccine Research and Development Recommendations for Advancing Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza Preparedness and Response.

**Ben Blount** is the Director of the Division of Laboratory Sciences (DLS), National Center for Environmental Health at CDC. Dr. Blount is board certified in Toxicological Chemistry, holds a Ph.D. in biochemistry, and has worked in the CDC Lab for 28 years, primarily focused on developing and applying analytical methods for quantifying biomarkers of exposure.

**Alberto Caban-Martinez** is a professor of Public Health Sciences and associate vice-provost for research integrity, regulatory affairs, and assessment at the University of Miami. He is also the deputy director of the firefighter cancer initiative at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, focusing on cancer prevention among firefighters and occupational health in high-risk worker populations. Dr. Caban-Martinez's research expertise lies in environmental and occupational epidemiology, with over 14 years of experience in studying occupational exposures, particularly in first responders, healthcare workers, fisherman, construction and contingent workers. His work has led to more than 202 peer-reviewed publications, and he has presented at over 298 scientific conferences. His research is published in prestigious journals, including New England Journal of Medicine, JAMA, and American Journal of Public Health. He holds a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) and Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) from Nova Southeastern University and a Ph.D. in Epidemiology from the University of Miami. He has served on multiple National Academies' committees, contributing his expertise in environmental and occupational health. Previously, he served on the Gulf War and Health Volume 10.

**Theresa A. Cullen** is currently the public health director of Pima County, Arizona. She has developed a strategic approach to transformational health status change with a goal of health equity through supporting a learning public health system model based on data and action. Theresa Cullen, RADM (retired) USPHS, began her family medicine clinical career with Indian Health Service (IHS) and worked in leadership positions including as the Chief Information Officer with American Indian/Alaska Native communities with a goal of improving health status through innovation and data informatics. Dr. Cullen worked as the Chief Medical Information Officer for the Veterans Health Administration from 2012-2015. In this role, she worked on the integrated EHR project and developed new models for field involvement in HIT decision making at the VHA. This work included the development of electronic clinical quality measures, population health software suites, public health monitoring tools within software, early sentinel awareness systems, immunization reporting, and new and novel ways to document and evaluate data elements with enterprise-wide deployments. From 2015-2020, Dr. Cullen worked as the Associate Director of Global Health Informatics at the Regenstrief Institute. She

graduated from Johnston College in 1978 with a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy/biology. She has a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Arizona, and a Master of Science from University of Wisconsin. Dr. Cullen previously served on the National Academies planning committee on Supporting the Capacity of Indigenous American and Tribal Communities to Prepare for, Respond to, and Recover from Disasters and Public Health Emergencies.

**Ben Gerhardtstein** is a Public Health Advisor with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). At ATSDR he helps to protect communities in the pacific southwest from exposure to pollutants from hazardous waste sites. He has worked on a range of environmental public health issues at CDC, including healthy community design, bicycle and pedestrian safety, environmental justice, food systems, and chemical policy. Ben has also taught a course on public health and the built environment at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health. He worked previously at the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, DC. Ben received his B.A. from Brown University and his M.P.H. from Emory University. An adventurous soul, Ben is an avid rock climber, wilderness trekker, and urban cyclist.

**Stacey Konkle** is an applied epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). Her research focuses on the health effects and community needs following large-scale chemical incidents, with particular expertise in environmental and disaster epidemiology. She has led investigations into environmental exposures and their impacts on population health. Her areas of expertise include environmental exposure assessment, probability-sampled survey design and analysis, applied epidemiology, and the translation of epidemiologic findings into public health action. Dr. Konkle previously served as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer, where she focused on applied epidemiology in partnership with state and local health agencies. She has also conducted research with the American Heart Association and a Superfund Research Program examining the links between environmental exposures and cardiometabolic risk. She holds a Ph.D. and M.P.H. in Epidemiology and Biostatistics from the University of Louisville and a B.S. from Purdue University.

**Lieutenant Commander Irene Lee**, is with the United States Public Health Service. She is an Environmental Health Scientist with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Region 8 office, located in Denver, Colorado. As a clinical pharmacist, Irene brings a unique perspective to the world of environmental health, with a passion for protecting communities from medication-related environmental contamination.